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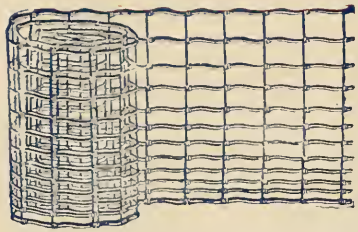

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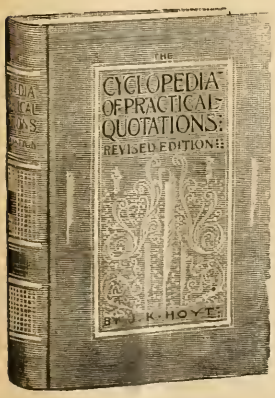

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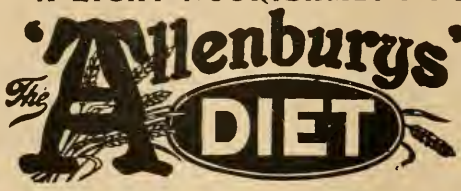

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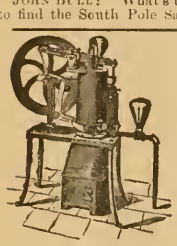

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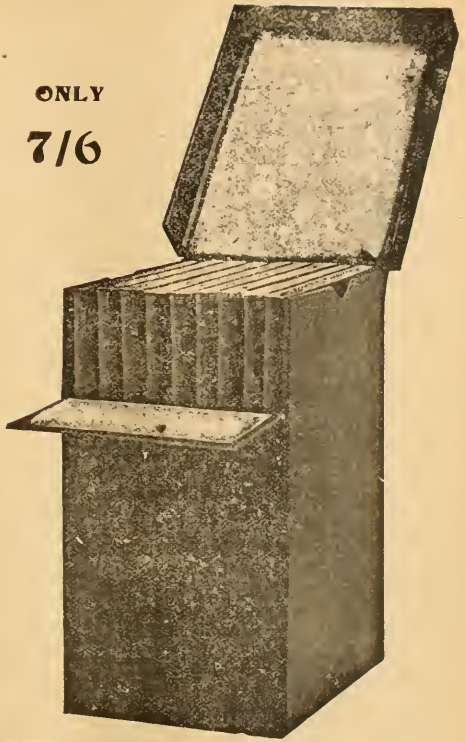

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CONTENTS FOR MAY, 1910.

	Page
History of the Month (Australian) ...	lxxiv.
History of the Month (English)	203
Character Sketch: Our Sovereign Lord the King...	220
Impressions of the Theatre	228
Texts that have Helped	230
The Passion Play at Ober-Ammergau. This Year's Performances (illustrated)	232
Current History in Caricature	235
Book of the Month: Life of Lord Kelvin	241
Leading Articles in the Reviews—	
Reflections on the Elections	246
What Should the Government Do?	247
Why the Irish Hate the Budget	247
Shakespeare a Poet Among Men	248
Are We Losing the Use of Our Hands?	249
Is Party Government Breaking Down?	250
Should Working Men Pay Income Tax?	250
The German Press Bureau	251
"Celebrities I have Met"	252
How the Socialist Bogey is Manufactured	252
"Australia's Golden Fleece"	253
Irrigation Better than Rain	253
England's Universal Political Power ...	254
The Message of William O'Brien	255
The Great Trade in Honey	256
In Unexplored Borneo	257
The Chopin Centenary	258
Mapping the Heavens	259
Cathedrals of the New World	260
Music and Art in the Magazines	261

(*Continued on next page.*)

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CONTENTS (Continued from page lxxiii.)

PAGE

Leading Articles (Continued)—

Drugging Big Game 262
Where New Zealand Leads 263
A New Spain 263
Are Men More Religious than Women? . . . 264
Africa and America Taking Tea at the North Pole 264
The New Despotism in Turkey 265
A Conversation with George Meredith 266
The American Woman's League 267
Fifty Thousand Students in Tokio 267
Is Lord Morley a Persecutor? 268
What the Congo Reformers Want Now . . . 268
Why the Press Has Lost Its Power 269
Triumphant Crime in America 269
Is Russia a Criminal Lunatic Asylum? . . . 270
In Old Madrid 271
The Mexico National Museum 272
The Paris Calamity 273
Oh, Wicked, Wicked France! 274
M. Rostand's "Chantecler" 274
Beef as Business 275

PAGE

Leading Articles (Continued)—

The Hope for the Future of Ireland . . . 276
"On the Pavement with the Unemployed" . . 276
The Native Question in South Africa . . . 277
Black and White in America and Africa . . 277
How Denmark Provides for the Aged Poor . 278
How to Make Children Love Art 278

Topics of the Day in the Periodicals of the Month 279

Reviews Reviewed—

The Nineteenth Century and After—Blackwood's Magazine 281
The World's Work 281
The Contemporary Review 282
The National Review 283
American Reviews 283
The Fortnightly Review 284
The North American Review 284
Science Progress 285
Cassell's Magazine 285

Insurance Notes 286
Nitro-Bacterine 287

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THE HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

MELBOURNE, April 21st, 1910.

The Day of Labour.

This is the day of Labour. It has achieved a victory at the polls almost without precedence in the world's history, to its own astonishment as well as to that of its opponents. That is one of the most remarkable aspects of the position. There was no indication on the surface of the waters to tell of the upheaval that was to come. Indeed, the placid condition of things seemed to point to a continuance of existing conditions. Yet there it is. There is no gainsaying the fact, Labour is in power, with a following that gives it liberty to do pretty well as it chooses. To say that the community received a shock is not to appreciate the position. To describe it as being stunned is also too faint a description. The community generally was upheaved by the result. It was a complete reversion of the previous position. The defeat of the Ministerial party ended in a complete rout. And now the field lies open to the Labourites. It is hardly to be expected that they will walk as warily as they did during their previous terms of office. Then they had not absolute power; to-day they have. Then they represented a minority in the community, to-day they stand supported by a large and powerful majority. Then they were feeling their way cautiously and uncertainly through the mazes of public opinion; to-day they have the full light of knowledge of popular approval. The position is thus entirely different. A man can be a very different person when he is sure of his ground to what he is when he is not certain as to what the next half-hour will bring him. Suavity can be changed into relentless determination. But it would be unfair to judge the Labour Party before it takes office. The only thing to suggest these thoughts is that the Labour Party has been elected on its programme, and has been given backing more than sufficient to carry that programme out even to the accents and punctuation marks.

The Surprise of the Decade.

It is safe to say Australia never received a greater surprise than she did on the night of the 13th April, 1910, when the news of the result of the Federal elections began to be made known. That nobody anticipated such a result is evident from the attitude assumed by the Government and Labour leaders and rank and file alike. If appearances counted for anything the Government seemed to be facing a greater success than it had previously known. Its record in legislation was something to be proud of. The record of the Labour Party after their defeat by the Fusion Party was a sorrowful one. It then played such a part as, it would have been thought, would have brought it into disfavour with the people, through blocking progress in a vindictive spirit. The ruinous strike that had taken place in the eastern and western extremities of New South Wales indicated a degree of ineptitude that seemed to portend disaster at the elections. The fused Government had stood for the people as no previous Federal Parliament had done. In a dignified and statesmanlike way it had gone ahead with its proposals and carried them into effect. But the election has turned expectations clean upside down. Even Labour itself is astonished at the result. In most cases the polling was exceptionally heavy as compared with previous elections. A wave of sentiment towards Labour seems to have swept over the whole continent. It has given the Labour Party such a large majority that it will be able to look forward to an uninterrupted term of office for three years at least.

How Far Will Labour Go?

What the result will be with a dominant Labour Party is hard to estimate. Self-contained, self-sufficient, able if it desires, to ride arrogantly over the rest of the House without let or hindrance, it will possess a power which no party in the Federal House has exercised since its beginning. But it is to be hoped that it does not assume this attitude. It seems one of the ironies of fate that the Labour Party, which did its best to persuade Australia to reject the bill for establishing the Commonwealth of Australia, should be the first single party to hold complete dominance in the House which was established through the instrumentality of that Bill. Up to the present time each party that has been in power has had to depend for its existence upon the good graces of some members of the other two parties. That necessarily tinged the legis-

lation of the day. It was impossible for any party to put forward its extreme desires, for the simple reason that such a course of action would bring about instant defeat. Whatever legislation was carried through was in the nature of a compromise. This obtained until the Liberal and Opposition parties brought about the celebrated Fusion. Then, for the first time, was legislation put through on a much larger scale than had previously been. But even that was to some extent limited. Now a party comes to power which has no probability and very little possibility of a division in its ranks. One wonders whether the Labour Party planks, such as a land tax, the nationalisation of the liquor traffic, the nationalisation of many industries, are likely to be seriously considered.

The Composition of the Houses.

The new House will be very different from the last, in that in the last Parliament there were 46 Ministerialists, 27 Labourites, and two Independents. In the present Parliament there will be 30 Opposition, 42 Labourites and three Independents. This will mean that Labour in the House of Representatives will have 45 as against 30, for the three Independents incline to the side of Labour. In the last Senate there were 21 Ministerialists and 15 Labourites. In the present there are 22 Labourites and 14 Opposition. The Labour Party captured every contested Senate seat in every State. Taking the two Houses, Ministerialists in the last Parliament commanded 67 votes, as against 42 Labour and two Independent. In the present Parliament in the two Houses the Opposition Party will have 44 votes and Labour 66, with three Independents in addition. This will mean a reign of power unknown in the history of the Federal Parliament. If it chooses, the Labour Party can simply put forward its proposals, keep silence and let the other side do the talking, and apply the closure when it thinks it has had sufficient, and carry them without any interchange of argument. It is strong enough to carry into effect all it proposes. A good deal of interest will attach to its intentions. It remains to be seen whether the party approves of its own programme, or whether a good deal of it is make-believe. If the former, then it must bring about drastic changes in industrial life. It must nationalise great industries and at least one public evil. But the probability is that the platform is a capital thing for electioneering purposes, while the Party would be afraid to put it thoroughly into effect. If it is in earnest over the nationalisation of liquor, it would be a very logical act for it to undertake the nationalisation also of Tattersall's. Both are ready established agencies for making much money at the expense of the public good, and if it be right in the one case it would be right in the other.

A Battle of Abuse.

Not in the history of Australia has there been an election where such an amount of abuse has been poured out. The bitterest vials of wrath have been drained to the dregs. Meetings have been broken up, candidates refused a hearing, the most wicked and malicious statements circulated about men of good report, and every trick possible resorted to in order to prevent free speech. The sorrowful part of it all, too, is that it has all come from one side. It is with the greatest regret one has to record it, but historians, if they are correct ones, must give to this election pride of place for barbarous exhibitions, and for them the supporters of the Labour Party have been entirely and wholly responsible. Everywhere Labour speakers have had good, quiet hearings. Everywhere Government candidates have been subjected to the grossest insults, and have simply had, in most cases to ride down opposition by sheer physical force. In many cases it was impossible to do this even. Not in one case came any disclaimer from candidates. One wished many times that for the sake of the Party the practice would be condemned. Presumably any old way was good enough, and any dodge warrantable to secure return. One stood aghast and wondered what strange madness had taken hold of the democracy. With all the privileges that a free democracy brings like it does here, the very classes that are most benefited used every means of force that lay within their control to prevent the use of free speech. And yet it is the right of free speech which has made the Labour Party possible. One of the most necessary fundamentals of democracy is the right to express opinions. Democracy could not exist without it. In an autocracy the expression of opinion is regarded as a crime when it comes in conflict with authority. Free speech will shake the foundations of the most strongly-entrenched autocracy. One of the very first fruits of a democracy, even though it be a democracy limited in its extent, is the right for men to express their individual opinions. Free speech acts as a cause, and is also a result. The essence of democracy lies in the belief that opinion and not physical force is to make the destiny of a country. But in this election opinion was largely denied a hearing. Yells, cat-calls, boo-hoos, counting out, were the only weapons that were used by the mob. By such crude but effective weapons as these the Government candidates were heckled and assailed until it was past bearing. One cannot help wondering what the democracy is coming to if this kind of thing is the political stock-in-trade of many of the electors. Democracy has done many things for workers in Australia. It has given them conditions of living and rates of wages that probably cannot be surpassed anywhere in the world, but one stands apart and wonders what is wrong when these things seem to

produce in the working man a capacity to bully-rag and denounce in the bitterest and most vituperative terms any candidate who happens to be outside the arms of the Labour Party.

Some of Labour's Allies.

Another very sad aspect of the case is that in most electorates the Labour Party was openly supported by the liquor traffic and other agencies that stand for retrogression. This is an exceedingly significant fact. In some other countries of the world Labour stands out against these things. In Australia it takes them to its bosom. This is an explanation of the reason why some of the members of the Labour Party, in large centres of the population at any rate, unconsciously advertise themselves by their actions as being of such degenerate political tendencies. One is not only known by the company one keeps, but one is also affected by the company one keeps. Labour must beware, for the liquor trade does not give its support for naught. It will expect to get the uttermost farthing in legislative assistance from the men it helped to return to power.

The Friend of the Workers.

Strange as it may seem, the greatest friends of the workers received the most cruel treatment at their hands. This was notably the case with Mr. Samuel Mauger, whose election campaign stands out as one of the bitterest and most cruel. Except where the admission was by ticket and the attendance was limited to friends, Mr. Mauger was never on one occasion given a decent hearing by the other side. Mere physical force in the shape of yells and howls was the opposition he met from his opponents. Argument was entirely discarded. Opposed to him were some of the worst evils in the community in the shape of liquor, gambling, and immorality. The liquor traffic remembered his bold attacks on it on the canteen question; gambling writhed under the blows it had got during his term of office as Postmaster-General; immorality knew what he had done towards the suppression of vice. And all joined hands with the Labour Party to throw him out of power. If any man should have been supported by the Labour Party it was Mr. Mauger. Pre-eminently the workers' friend, he has fought a battle for better wages and improved conditions of living as no other man has done. The ideal for which he has fought has been not simply improved conditions, so far as outward things are concerned, but an environment which would help to raise the moral as well as the social condition of workers. For this he has laboured and spent himself as no other man has done, and his reward from many of the workers during the election was simply mob argument and vile accusations. As hon. secretary of the Anti-Sweating League he was primarily responsible for Wages Boards. He has not only largely solved that Labour problem in Victoria, but has set the example to other States and other parts of the world, and in this has raised a monument for himself that will last as long as history remains. In other ways he has helped to raise the standard of social excellence, and countless thousands have reason to bless him for improved conditions. Yet, night after night, he faced howling mobs which were gathered together for no other reason than to prevent him speaking. And Mr. Mauger's case was a typical one of others in degree. If the shibboleth of the Labour Party did not trip off the tongue of a candidate in the freest manner possible he was to them a traitor to every democratic standard. One can conceive of the masses living in refinement and culture as well as in improved conditions. That should be the aim of all reformers. But the day when that shall be is yet a long way off in Australia, if the conduct of the elections is an indication. One wonders whether our secular system of education has anything to do with it. Certainly as a people we do not much consider that side of our necessity as far as education is concerned. It may be that this crudity and barbarity is a phase of development and will pass off. If it be, the sooner the change comes the more creditable will be our democracy.

Mr. Deakin's Position.

One of the most regrettable things about the elections is the way in which some of the most prominent men have been sacrificed. The loss of Mr. Mauger is a national disaster. He has stood for certain elements as no other man has done. He quickened the national conscience politically by the determined way in which he attacked public evils when, as Cabinet Minister, he held the reins in his hands, as well as in other ways already indicated. The return of Mr. Deakin gives food for serious and sober thought. Here is a man who is recognised, even by those who do not agree with him in all points politically, as a statesman of the highest order. One of the few men able to grasp the intricacies of all public questions, a master mind, a prince of speakers, Mr. Deakin occupies a unique position in the political world. No matter what country he lived in he would naturally lead. Ballarat has always been considered the safest of seats for him. Electors generally felt a certain pride in Ballarat in that it adhered so loyally to the Prime Minister. Its allegiance never seemed to waver. A majority of some 6000 votes was looked upon as his natural heritage. Probably Mr. Deakin felt that the pulse of the people was beating all right, for he spent very little time in his constituency, devoting himself during the last few weeks to helping his supporters in different parts of the Commonwealth, as far north as Queensland. To say that it has come as a shock to everyone to know that Mr. Deakin has just managed to squeeze

in is quite to misunderstand the position. The result is an amazement and stuns one. At the last poll Mr. Deakin got 12,331 votes, as against 6305 won by his opponent. About the same number of votes were recorded this time as last, but the results are almost equal. By only a majority of 443 has Mr. Deakin won his seat.

The Apathetic Voter.

It is a pity, no matter which side wins, that so many people still fail to record their votes. In this case it is more than likely that if this had not been, the position would have been quite altered. We presume that even the Labour Party will acknowledge that they polled their full strength. This consideration makes evident some results that are simply startling. Twenty-six thousand nine hundred and fifty-two electors on the roll for Ballarat left something like a full 6700 votes which were not recorded. These, if recorded, probably would all have been cast for Mr. Deakin, and would have given him his customary majority. Another illustration is that of Maribyrnong. At the last election Mr. Mauger won his way through by a majority of 2700 votes. This time he has lost it by 5800, and yet there were 11,000 electors who did not record their votes. It may reasonably be supposed that the majority of these would have been given for Mr. Mauger, had they been cast. Here again as elsewhere it is reasonable to suppose that Labour polled its full strength. Such dreadful apathy in a crisis like this is a crime against the community. Or, take the Kooyong electorate, where Mr. Knox kept his seat with a lead of over 3000 votes. In this electorate 13,000 votes were not recorded. These figures will give some idea for the reason of the success of the Labour Party. They deserve full credit for beating up their supporters. Probably these conditions prevailed everywhere. There is, unfortunately, a large section of the community which is absolutely unconcerned as to the welfare of the country. Probably a number of these people underestimated the other side's strength, and imagined that it would be all right. This, combined with the fact that in most cases the votes of the liquor party, of the gambling fraternity, and also of the Roman Catholic Church, were solidly given to Labour, accounts for the success. This was the combination that Ministerial candidates had to face.

State Debts and Financial Agreement.

Of course it was only to be expected that, as the country went solidly for the Labour Party, it should also go solidly in its leading on the two other great questions that were submitted to the people. The Financial Agreement was rejected, while the taking over of State debts by the Commonwealth was approved of. The rejection of the Financial Agreement will face the incoming Parliament with a serious difficulty. It is certain that there will be a large deficit in Federal finances for the financial year ending 30th June next. If the Financial Agreement had been ratified there would have been available for the Commonwealth £600,000, for the Agreement provided for the surrender by the States to the Commonwealth of this amount of the States' share of the Customs and Excise revenue. It is, therefore, probable that the Labour Ministry will have to face the new year with a deficit of nearly a million pounds, for, in addition to the £600,000 that would have been supplied by the States, and which now will be lost, there are other expenditures that will have to be faced. Probably the Labour Party will bring in its Federal Land Tax. It has made no secret of its intention to do this in its speeches on the hustings. It is hardly likely, however, that the States' debts will be taken over yet. That is a question which the Labour Party is not likely to tackle for some time to come.

"Any Stick to Beat a Dog."

A very unfair advantage was taken by Protectionist newspapers, and Protectionist members of the Labour Party, in attacking the Fusion candidates on the policy of protection. It was unfair from a newspaper point of view, because the arrangement made at the time of the Fusion was open and aboveboard, and unfair from the point of view of those of the Labour Party who joined in the attack in that the Party have no settled fiscal policy themselves; but, on the principle that any stick will do to beat a dog with, this was brought forward as a reason why the Fusion should be condemned. Now, as a matter of fact, the question should never have entered into the contest at all. When the Fusion was consummated it was frankly and honestly recognised that the tariff fight had ended in a verdict of a majority of the people in favour of protection. It was jointly agreed that the matter should then be in abeyance, that it was unwise to keep the country in a state of perpetual agitation, and commence in a condition of uncertainty, and that it would be far better for a few years to leave the position in a state of rest. But staunch Protectionists were chided for making their position more secure, while Free-traders were subjected to the most cruel of criticism for keeping a protection policy in force. And the insincerity of the attack was shown from the fact that the hostile criticism all came from the Protectionists. Protection had everything to gain from the Fusion, and yet Protectionist organs and Protectionist individuals were the most cruel and heartless in criticising the arrangement. The battle should have been fought out without a fiscal issue. However, this is merely an illustration of the way in which those who should have been the best friends of the Government became its bitterest enemies.

The Resignation of the Government.

The Fusion Government has not delayed in determining what it would do. As soon as the final results were known, the Cabinet met and Mr. Deakin tendered the resignation of the Government. Mr. Fisher, who had not returned to Melbourne, was communicated with, and accepted the task of forming a new Ministry. As soon as he returns to the seat of Government this will be done. It is understood that the whole of the thirteen paid positions are to be filled by members chosen by the Labour Party in Caucus. This includes even the leadership, which will presumably mean the Prime Ministership. There is little doubt that the choice will fall on Mr. Fisher, who, to outward appearances, has the confidence of the Party, although it is known that there are other aspirants for the position. For the other Departments it is certain there will be keen competition. Already some of the long following are casting eager eyes towards office. Here will lie one of the dangers of a Party so strong that they need consider no outside influence. A position secure from the outside, often opens the door to internal dissension.

South Australian Election.

The same wave struck South Australia at the State elections held there during the month, although not so effectually; but it has altered the position of things there considerably. The Labour Party has a majority of two in the new House. And now that it has achieved a victory, it is certain that a change in the personnel of the Government must take place soon. The position of parties in the new House of Assembly is—Labourites 22, Ministerialists 20. The assumption of office will not be a new experience for the South Australian Labour Party, as under the late Mr. Price it had a long and useful career. One does not, however, grudge the South Australian party its victories. Its previous history was excellent, its personnel good, and its record clean.

Local Option in South Australia.

During the month twenty Local Option polls were held in different parts of South Australia. Out of the twenty polls, however, only one resulted in favour of Reduction. It must be remembered in connection with South Australian polls that the Local Option law of South Australia only provides for a reduction of existing licenses by one-third. This necessarily militates against success. Were the issue one of Licence versus No-licence, the probabilities are all in favour of the liquor traffic being swept away. As it is, there is a good deal of sympathy on the part of not very ardent electors with those publicans who would suffer by the loss of their licences while the fortunate ones whose licences were not affected would benefit proportionately. Experience in New Zealand and New South Wales shows that Reduction is not a very popular issue. As a matter of fact, judging by general experience, it would be better to make it a matter of permanent regulation—*i.e.*, as long as any licences exist—leaving the question of immediate No-licence to the vote of the people. It would be a wise step if Governments were to keep on reducing the number of public-houses by some mechanical means. This might be done, with periodical polls for complete No-licence. That there is a superfluity of hotels there is no doubt, and the question of making continuous reduction a part of the liquor law might well be considered by Governments.

[*Photo. by courtesy of the "Herald."*

The Late Miss Spence.

The Passing of a Reformer.

In the death of Miss Catherine Helen Spence, which occurred in Adelaide during the month at the age of 84 years, the whole world suffers a loss. Miss Spence was a woman of keen intellect and broad sympathies. Her energies continually found expression in new directions. It is hard to say in which connection her name is best known outside her own country. Probable it is most associated with the Hare Spence system of voting. She believed so much in proportionate representation that she perfected her system, and for 50 years did her best to get it on a fair way to acceptance by the Governments of the world. Her enthusiasm never wavered, and her hope never dimmed. On political economy and social matters her opinion was always

welcome. Her articles upon these subjects were a distinct feature of the press. In addition to this she had a special love for children, among whom waifs and strays occupied the largest part of her heart. She has mothered hundreds of them, and has done incalculable service to the States by redeeming the lives of so many of these little ones. In her work Miss Spence has left behind her a monument as beautiful as it will be enduring.

Bible-Reading in the Schools.

The question of Bible-reading in State schools is becoming one of increasing importance and interest. Gradually the question is coming to the fore in all the States. In Victoria, active measures are being instituted to create interest in the question, by the setting apart of a special organiser to work up the movement, the Rev. Joseph Nicholson, the veteran worker of the cause, being the chosen man for the work. In Queensland a referendum upon the question has been taken, and the result is overwhelmingly in favour of Bible-reading. The question has a majority of nearly 20,000. In view of the spread of democracy, the matter is one which must receive closer and still closer attention. No democracy can succeed unless it is founded upon right principles, and these cannot be expected to develop without religious training. Anything of this kind is sadly lacking in homes, and, as a safeguard, if from no higher motive, the State should adopt this means of inculcating a sense of moral tone.

An Interesting Return.

The New South Wales Education Department has been lately enquiring into the physical condition of children attending the State schools in that State. A medical inspection of the public schools was made during 1908 and 1909. Some exceedingly interesting comparisons have been made showing the effect of climate and general environment on the physique of the children. In Sydney and Newcastle districts, out of 66,000 pupils 14,380 were medically examined. Of these no fewer than 57 per cent. were found to have defective vision, 49 per cent. post nasal growth, and 24 per cent. throat trouble. Anthropometric records were made in the case of 50,349 children. From this it will be seen that the enquiry was on a fine scale. Taken generally it was found that the physical condition of children was not so good the farther west they lived. The climate of Broken Hill is generally regarded as a trying one. It is dry and the country arid, the rainfall being very slight. It was found to affect the physique of children detrimentally, especially in regard to weight. Western Riverina, also a dry, bleak part, was responsible for the weakest sight. On the other hand, the children on the Western plains had better teeth, and were more robust than the children on the table lands. In Sydney the mean chest measurement of boys increased from 23.6 at six years of age to 33.5 at eighteen years. This compared favourably with boys in other countries. With regard to weight and height the comparison was also good.

Immigration Efforts.

While most matters of general interest have been hung up in view of the absorbing interest of the elections, the stream of immigration from England continues to flow steadily in. The States are vieing with one another to offer attractions. Delegations are being prepared for the other countries of the world. Money is to be spent in advertising, and nominal fares charged to bring desirable settlers out. Italian intense culturists and Californian irrigationists are to be worked upon with all the persuasiveness that pleading lectures and illustrated pamphlets can give. All this is excellent, but one wonders just what attitude towards it the new Federal Government will take up. For Labour has not been at all keen on the question of immigration, on the ground that while there are unemployed in a country, as many people as possible should be kept out. Yet the tide is coming in so strongly now that it is unlikely that any barriers will be able to keep it out. While the open lands cry out for settlement as they are doing, the people will come, by a natural process of attraction.

Our Vast Mineral Wealth.

Australia is only beginning to realise her enormous possibilities with regard to minerals. Here and there the earth has been scratched, and treasures of gold and coal and ironstone have been unearthed. But the huge reserves of nature are just beginning to be known. Broken Hill has been one of the wonders of the world in ore production, but some figures lately given by the manager of one of the principal mines before a Parliamentary committee are such as to create astonishment. He told how that during the existence of Broken Hill 20,700,000 tons of ore had been extracted, and that the mines now had 900,000 tons of slimes and 6,000,000 tons of zinc tailings to treat. The zinc plants now working and being erected would treat 1,020,000 tons yearly, giving six years' work on the dumps alone. The current production, when the Proprietary, British, Block 14, and other mines restarted, would augment these figures by 229,000 tons of slimes and 760,000 tons of zinc tailings annually. The present ore reserves in the large mines were estimated at 13,085,000 tons, which, at the rate of 1,300,000 tons yearly, would give the field a life of ten years on the ore in sight alone. There is hardly another mining field in the world with such large reserves of ore.

A Town in the Making.

In Southern Gippsland, at only a distance of some sixty miles from Melbourne, is another natural deposit, which will be the means of making a great town, and adding to the wealth

of the State. Here has been discovered a coal bed of such enormous size that it bids fair to equal, if not surpass, the largest known fields. It was known that coal existed there, but Government dilatoriness stood in the way of development till the Newcastle strike forced the Government to take action. But once it started, things began to move quickly, and now a town is in the course of formation, and it is to be known by the unmusical name of Wonthaggi. Even in this new country it is a revelation of pioneering. The Government wisely stepped in, and insisted upon the town being laid out in a proper way, and it presents a most remarkable appearance of neatness and orderliness, streets being marked out and tents arranged with mathematical precision in long rows. The Government has secured a quantity of land which is reserved for a township allotment, and is either leasing sections or building houses for rent. This is quite a new departure in State control. The seam which is being worked at present is at a depth of only 40 feet, and from 8 feet to 9 feet in thickness. As far as present appearances go, there seems no end to the field. As one official described it, it looks as though, if the top were scraped off, there would be revealed a whole country side of the precious coal.

Daylight Saving Proposal.

For some time past Mr. Outtrim, M.L.A., of Victoria, has been pushing forward a scheme for saving daylight by reckoning time at an earlier hour, and last year he introduced a Bill into the Legislative Assembly to provide for it. The result of it was that a committee was appointed to take evidence upon the matter, and get the opinion of prominent men. The general opinion was that it would be a good thing. Now the Victorian State Government has decided to bring the question before the next Conference of State Premiers for consideration. If the idea were brought into operation, it would mean a large saving in gas bills and in fuel, and would give much more daylight for recreation and pleasure, and it is well worth the consideration of all the Governments. Of course it would be necessary for all the States to adopt the principle, as it would mean an alteration in the time of the running of all public conveyances.

National Thrift.

Statistics can be very eloquent at times, especially when they refer to the habits of the people with regard to thrift and economy. Australians as a whole are to be complimented upon these qualities. They make splendid use of the Savings Banks. The deposits in the two Savings Banks of New South Wales amount to £27,000,000. Considering that the population is only one and a half million, and that out of this there must be necessarily taken an exceedingly large number who cannot yet be clients of the banks, this shows a remarkable faculty for saving on the part of the people.

The Wreck of the "Pericles."

On Thursday, the 31st March, the Aberdeen liner "Pericles," of 11,000 tons, en route to London via Durban, crashed into what is supposed to be a rock off Cape Leeuwin, and in two hours had sunk out of sight. What was the exact cause is not yet known, but a court of enquiry has completely exonerated Captain Simpson, and decided that he was on a proper course. Fortunately the accident happened in the afternoon, and the sea was not very rough, and as a result the whole of the ship's company was landed without any fatalities.

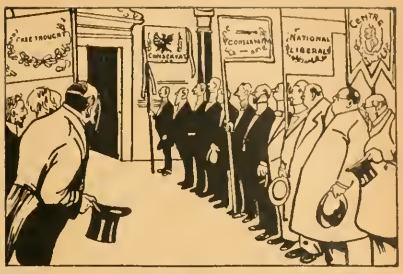
The Outbreak of Small-pox.

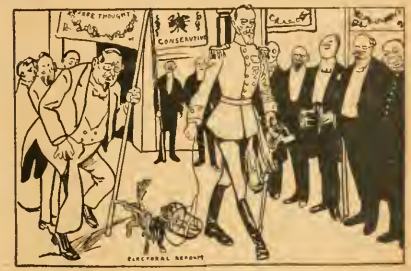
The fact that the s.s. "Otway" had brought to our shores the dreaded disease of small-pox created quite a sensation throughout the community. The health officers took the matter duly in hand and quarantined the passengers, but seven deaths have already occurred, and the unfortunate passengers have not all been released from quarantine yet. Fortunately such precautions can be taken that there is little likelihood of the disease spreading, if it is combated immediately. In any of the steamers affected quarantine regulations are rightly rigidly enforced. The case that has happened shows the necessity for the Federal Government maintaining the highest standard of efficiency in the officers who are responsible for the treatment of new arrivals from the point of view of health. We are remarkably free as a community from many of the physical scourges of the old world, and too rigid a rule can hardly be enforced. It might be as well if the Government extended its functions so as to include consumptives amongst those who require special treatment on arriving in Australia. Such a suggestion might seem to savour of hardship to those who are seeking restoration in our sunny clime, but there is no need either for excluding them or harsh treatment. In the case of persons suffering from consumption it could be insisted upon that they should remain within the jurisdiction of the health officers and receive proper attention, or go to properly-equipped sanatoria, where they would be the most likely to secure the health they had come to seek. The case of the "Otway" proves that the greatest of vigilance should be exercised in the case of all vessels arriving here.

La Silhouette.] [Paris.

Shorn in the Same Way.

The people are shorn just like sheep: whether in England or in France, the people may bleat, but in the end they always have to pay the taxes.





Ulk.] [Berlin.

Opening of the Landtag.

It is natural that they should be curious to see whether the Chancellor will bring Electoral Reform with him.
Yes, he certainly is bringing it.

Westminster Gazette.]

The Discarded Doll.

The children in the Tariff Reform Unionist Nursery having done with the "Lords" Doll fling it out of the window.

Ohio State Journal.]

Is He really Waking Up?

Photograph by] [*Lallie Charles.*

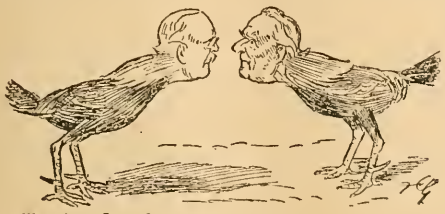
THE WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

This is a charming new photographic study of Mrs. Herbert Gladstone, whose husband goes out to South Africa shortly as Governor-General. Mrs. Gladstone, who is the youngest daughter of the late Sir Richard Paget, is both talented and beautiful.

LONDON, March 1st, 1910.

The Opening of Parliament.

The new Parliament was opened by the King and Queen in person on February 21. The previous day had been one of storm and hurricane. But the King had the proverbial Queen's weather when he drove from Buckingham Palace amid the enthusiastic cheers of one of the largest crowds ever assembled on such an occasion. The Speech from the Throne was awaited with unusual interest. Besides the perfunctory references to Foreign and Imperial Affairs, the Speech contained two paragraphs of first-rate importance. The first declared that arrangements must be made at the earliest possible moment to deal with the financial situation created by the rejection of last year's Budget. The second was as follows :—



Westminster Gazette.]

The First Spur.

> Recent experience has disclosed serious difficulties, due to recurring differences of strong opinion between the two branches of the Legislature.
>
> Proposals will be laid before you with all convenient speed, to define the relations between the Houses of Parliament, so as to secure the undivided authority of the House of Commons over Finance, and its predominance in Legislation.

Photograph by] [*Topical Press.*

The King goes in State to Open the New Parliament.

These Measures, in the opinion of My advisers, should provide that this House [meaning the House of Lords] should be so constituted and empowered as to exercise impartially, in regard to proposed legislation, the functions of initiation, revision, and, subject to proper safeguards, of delay.

Mr. Asquith's Pledge.

Mr. Asquith's speech explaining his policy was characteristic of the qualities and defects of the Prime Minister. It was clear as crystal, and about as exhilarating as ice. To the infinite dismay and disgust of the ardent members of the coalition he told them that when in his Albert Hall speech he said "We shall not assume office, and we shall not hold office, unless we can secure safeguards which experience shows us to be necessary for the legislative utility and honour of the party of progress"—he did not mean that he had obtained guarantees for the contingent exercise of the Royal prerogative. "I tell the House quite frankly that I have received no such guarantees, and that I have asked for no such guarantees." Mr. Asquith continued :—

To ask in advance for a blank authority for an indefinite exercise of the Royal prerogative in regard to a measure which has never been submitted to or approved by the House of Commons is a thing which, in my judgment, no constitutional statesman can properly make, and it is a concession which the Sovereign cannot be expected to grant.

Mr. Redmond's Admission.

The best defence of the Prime Minister's position was made, oddly enough, by Mr. Redmond. Speaking immediately after Mr. Asquith, the Irish leader said :—

The right hon. gentleman has made one argument which appealed, I confess, strongly to me. He seemed to think that the claim put forward by some one or other about these guarantees was that he should go to the Sovereign immediately—before he had a scheme prepared, before he had introduced his scheme, before we had seen it, before the House of Commons had spoken and decided upon it—and ask the Sovereign to give him a blank guarantee guaranteeing him, in any event, to deal as he chose with a scheme that had not been seen and which the Government did not know themselves. I do not know who the right hon. gentleman suggests made that proposal, but I certainly never suggested anything of the kind. I think it would be unreasonable, I admit it would be absurd, to expect a constitutional Sovereign to say to any Minister :—"I give you a guarantee to enable you by my Royal prerogative to carry any measure you like without any reference to what it is." That is what it would come to.

There is no answer to this. The only remark to make is that is was unfortunate that Ministerial speeches were so worded as to mislead their followers as to how the case actually stood.

The Ministerial Programme.

Mr. Asquith explained that Ministers were going to drive Budget and Veto not tandem, but abreast. First, certain indispensable votes in Supply would be taken; then resolutions setting forth a summary of the substance and essence of the

Portrait by [*Lallie Charles.*

The Hon. Mrs. Ivor Guest.

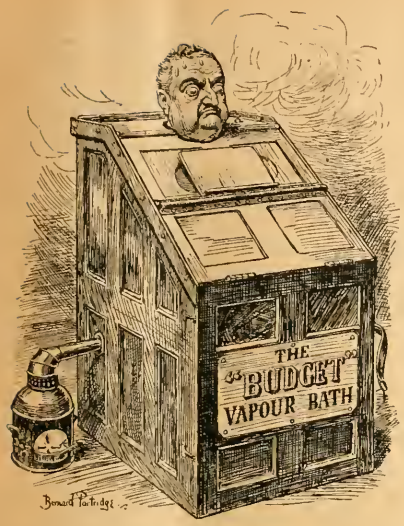
Who entertained two thousand friends of the Government at Wimborne House, London, on February 19th.

Ministerial measure for the recasting of our constitutional system would be brought forward and carried; after which they hoped, by some form of more or less summary procedure, to force the Budget through the House :—

We wish it to be clearly understood from the first that, as will be the case with the Lords' resolution, so also with the Budget—we stand or fall by them. We regard both of them as integral parts of our policy, and, so far as we are concerned as a Government, we must stake all our credit on carrying them through this House.

Mr. Winston Churchill, who made his first speech as Home Secretary on the second day of the debate on the Address—a speech characterised by great lucidity of exposition and a welcome terseness of expression—explained why it was absolutely necessary to carry the Budget. He said :—

We, on this side of the House, would regard its loss as a damaging and possibly a mortal blow. We attach the highest importance to many of its provisions—an importance second only to the question of veto. We believe in particular that with the development of the land proposal of the Budget is wrapped up much of the progressive future of democracy. We regard the passage of the Budget as a necessary and vital signal of our victory at the polls, and we should regard its defeat as a terrible vindication of the unconstitutional action of the House of Lords.



By permission of the proprietors of "Punch."]

The Only Way.

MR. JOHN REDMOND: "This is mighty unpleasant, but I've got to get into condition for the big event somehow."

Of course, to abandon the Budget in order to make a frontal attack on the Veto would be as absurd as if the French had captured Portsmouth, and we were to postpone all attempts to clear them out of our great naval arsenal in order to make a march on Paris.

The Radical Revolt.

Mr. Redmond leading, Mr. Barnes following, and the most of the Radical members in support, raised a great commotion over the Ministerial policy, which they considered to be lacking in the heroical note that the situation demanded. There were deputations and meetings and resolutions—all the familiar machinery of discontent was set in motion, culminating in a threatened crisis that came to a head on Monday, February 28. Ministers then announced that they had decided to stoop to conquer. The stooping was immediate. The conquering is postponed. Instead of bringing in resolutions in favour of Reforming the House of Lords—for which Ministers admitted they have no mandate—the resolutions are to be limited to the Veto: (1) financial and (2) legislative. Instead of Budget and Veto being driven abreast, it is to be tandem after all, with Budget in the shafts. The resolutions were originally not to be sent to the House of Lords. Now they are to be submitted to the Peers, after being passed by the Commons, for the express purpose of provoking a crisis necessitating an appeal to the King. As it is absolutely certain, for reasons which are fully set forth in another page, that the King will refuse to make five hundred Peers on the demand of a Ministry whose majority is in a state of unstable equilibrium, the only result of the Radical revolt will be to precipitate a fresh appeal to the country.

The Cause of the Trouble.

The whole secret of the uproar lies in the fact that the Liberals throughout the country imagined from the declarations of Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George that Ministers had obtained from the King guarantees that if the constituencies returned a majority against the Veto, he would create as many Peers as were necessary to bear down the resistance of the Lords. It was all a mistake. No one has ever approached the King on the subject. As Mr. Redmond admitted, quite frankly, it was impossible, unreasonable and absurd to expect the King to give any Prime Minister a blank cheque to be used in certain hypothetical

Photograph by [*E. H. Mills.*

Mr. William O'Brien, M.P.

A new portrait taken for this REVIEW.

contingencies. But it was in that fond delusion the Election was fought and won. When Mr. Asquith did not resign, and Mr. Lloyd George remained more than a day in office, the faith of the Liberals in the reality of the Royal guarantees was confirmed. When Parliament met this political Humbert's safe was opened, and lo! there was nothing in it. Hence fierce blasphemy among the rank and file, threatened mutiny, and menace of instant suicide. This was natural enough under the circumstances. No one likes to feel he has been befooled, much less betrayed. The Liberals were not betrayed, but they had been living in a fools' Paradise from which the awakening was very rude.

Making Bad Worse.

Anger is a bad counsellor, and the net result of the explosion of irritation against the Ministry has been to expose the party to one of the most serious dangers that have ever threatened its position. The fate of the Budget is problematical. Yet nothing is more certain than that Mr. Churchill spoke the truth when he said that its loss would vindicate the Lords. The whole pressure of the malcontents was to force the difference between the two Houses to a head in order that Ministers, at the earliest possible moment, might be in a position to demand guarantees from the Crown. They have had their way. The Veto resolutions are to be taken before the Budget, and the acceptance of the Budget is apparently to be contingent upon the granting of guarantees, not the asking for them. If they are demanded and refused, then apparently the Budget will not be voted. For Ministers are pledged in that case either to resign or to dissolve. In either case their inability to carry the Budget will handicap them seriously. I confess it is difficult to understand how any sane politician who looks before and after can for a moment disguise from himself the fact that even if the Budget were far worse than its worst enemies allege it to be, its acceptance prompt and immediate is absolutely necessary to justify any serious campaign against the Lords.

The King and the Situation.

It is all very well to force Ministers to demand guarantees; but unless you know the result of your demand such heroical policy may be anything but prudent. Suppose, for instance, the King refuses, and an appeal is made to the country? It will be impossible to prevent some of the less responsible members of both parties from dragging the King's name into the controversy. Some Radicals will denounce the King for not making Peers. Nearly all Tories will declare that every vote given for a Liberal is a vote given against "his most Gracious." The responsible leaders on both sides will do their utmost to prevent this degradation of the Crown into an electioneering asset. But their utmost efforts will be unavailing. The King is far too popular for any Party to have even a ghost of a chance if it could by hook or by crook be represented by its enemies as being hostile to the free exercise of the Constitutional prerogatives of the Crown. Yet that is the danger into which we are running full tilt.

The Irish and the Budget.

The Liberal and Labour Parties are agreed as to the importance of the Budget. The hitch comes in when the Irish Nationalists are asked to vote for imposts which they regard as imposing unjust burdens upon Ireland. They consider that Ireland already pays more than its fair share of Imperial taxation, and they object to any increase of their contribution. They say that the Budget will raise Ireland's quota to £13,000,000 or £14,000,000 a year, which is more than she can bear. They specifically object to the increased tax on whisky, to the increase in the succession duties, and to the increased stamp duty on transfer. Land taxes, popular enough with great urban communities in Britain, are not so popular with the 300,000 Irish farmers whom, at great cost, we have just converted into landowners. Hence they say that nothing on earth will induce them to vote for the Budget, and the Independents, headed by Mr. O'Brien, say that nothing on earth will prevent them voting against it. Mr. Redmond's position is that he might refrain from voting against it if Ministers can guarantee that they will carry their Veto Bill this Session. As Ministers cannot in the nature of things give any such guarantee, the prospect of the Ministry looks black. Mr. Redmond can, of course, knife the Government whenever he pleases. But the temptation to exercise that proud prerogative of slaughter is held in check by a salutary dread of the consequences.

The Split in the Irish Ranks.

Mr. O'Brien says that he stands for the Land Purchase Act, which resulted from Captain Shaw Taylor's famous Conference of Conciliation. He declares that Mr. Birrell's Amending Act has arrested the process of converting tenants into owners, which was gradually transforming the whole situation. He stands as an advocate of national fraternity, and for the burying of the hatchet of racial and religious animosity. By way of promoting this excellent object

Photograph by [*Russell and Sons.*

The Master of Elibank.
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury.

Mr. E. J. Soares, M.P. for Barnstaple.
Junior Lord of the Treasury.

Photograph by [*Russell and Sons.*

Captain Cecil Norton, M.P.
Assistant Postmaster General.

he is waging fierce war against Mr. Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party. With 300,000 new landowners in Ireland he maintains that the Irish have won their battle, the long land war is ended, and he would emulate the example of the Boers, who made peace as loyally as they made war gallantly. Circumstances have forced him into a position which he detests. But there is no going backward. If a General Election were to take place this summer there would no longer be a United Ireland. The Nationalists would be split into two sections. American money cannot be relied upon when the Nationalists are disunited. Is it too late to hope for a reconciliation of Mr. Redmond and Mr. W. O'Brien on the basis of an All-for-Ireland policy of national fraternity, and the exorcism of all religious and party hatreds?

The Ministerial Changes.

The changes in the Ministry have been minimised. Mr. Herbert Gladstone's South African appointment necessitated the appointment of a new Home Secretary. Mr. Winston Churchill, who had well deserved his promotion, was appointed to the Home Office, thereby creating a vacancy at the Board of Trade, which was filled by Mr. Sidney Buxton, who also had earned promotion by his excellent work as Postmaster-General. Mr. Herbert Samuel succeeded him, and the defeated Liberal Whip, Mr. J. A. Pease, becomes Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. There has therefore been no general post or wholesale reshuffling of portfolios. General sympathy will be felt for Mr. John Burns, who still remains at the Local Government Board, where he has worked like a slave ever since "C.-B." constituted his Ministry.

Lord Rosebery and Mr. Harold Cox.

Mr. Harold Cox having lost his seat because of his antagonism to the Budget, Lord Rosebery presided over a dinner given in his honour by what may be described as the *Spectator* party. Lord Rosebery raised the usual lament about party having crushed all independence out of Parliament, which sounds rather oddly at a time when the excessive development of independent parties threaten to make Parliamentary government unworkable. Another absurd remark fell from his lips when he said that if the Budget were passed it would be Irish, not British finance that had triumphed. The statement is absolutely an inversion of the truth. The Budget has a strong British majority in its favour. If it were defeated, not if it were passed, the event would represent a triumph of Irish over British finance.

Joseph Chamberlain.

The relatives of Mr. Chamberlain were ill-advised to allow him to make so painful an exhibition of decrepitude as that which shocked the public on the occasion of his taking the

oath in the House of Commons. Mr. Chamberlain's name had been affixed to letters innumerable during the recent Election, and the majority of people imagined that he had written them. Imagine, then, the shuddering shock that was administered when a feeble, tottering, half-paralysed wreck was supported to the table, where he had not even vitality enough to sign his name or to grasp the hand of the Speaker. He made his mark to the name which his son had signed, mumbled a few words, and disappeared for ever from the arena in which he once played so fateful a part. It is difficult to say whether pity or dismay contributed most largely to the emotion which this pathetic spectacle created in the public mind. Better, far better, that the public had never seen him again than that he should have been brought out thus to advertise to the world the irremediable collapse of his physical energy.

Democratising Toryism.

A shrewd observer long ago declared that the fundamental principle of the British Constitution was that the Liberals start the hare and the Tories catch it. There seems to be some justification for his remark in the extraordinary readiness which the Tory Press is showing to graft advanced Liberal doctrines upon the Conservative programme. Mr. Garvin, of the *Observer*, who has superseded Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Balfour as the director of Unionist policy, is now declaring in trumpet tones that—

> The permanent exclusion, for all practical purposes, of one of the great parties of the State from one of the two Houses of the Legislature will not do. No fair mind likes to think of it. No man stands upon any public platform to justify it. For it cannot be defended. It cannot be continued.

The *Pall Mall Gazette*, not to be left behind, has drawn up a "programme that will knit together every section of Conservative and Unionist opinion," which contains among other items :—

> The Reform of the House of Lords.
> Equal Electoral Districts.
> Land Purchase for small holders in Great Britain.
> Payment of Members.

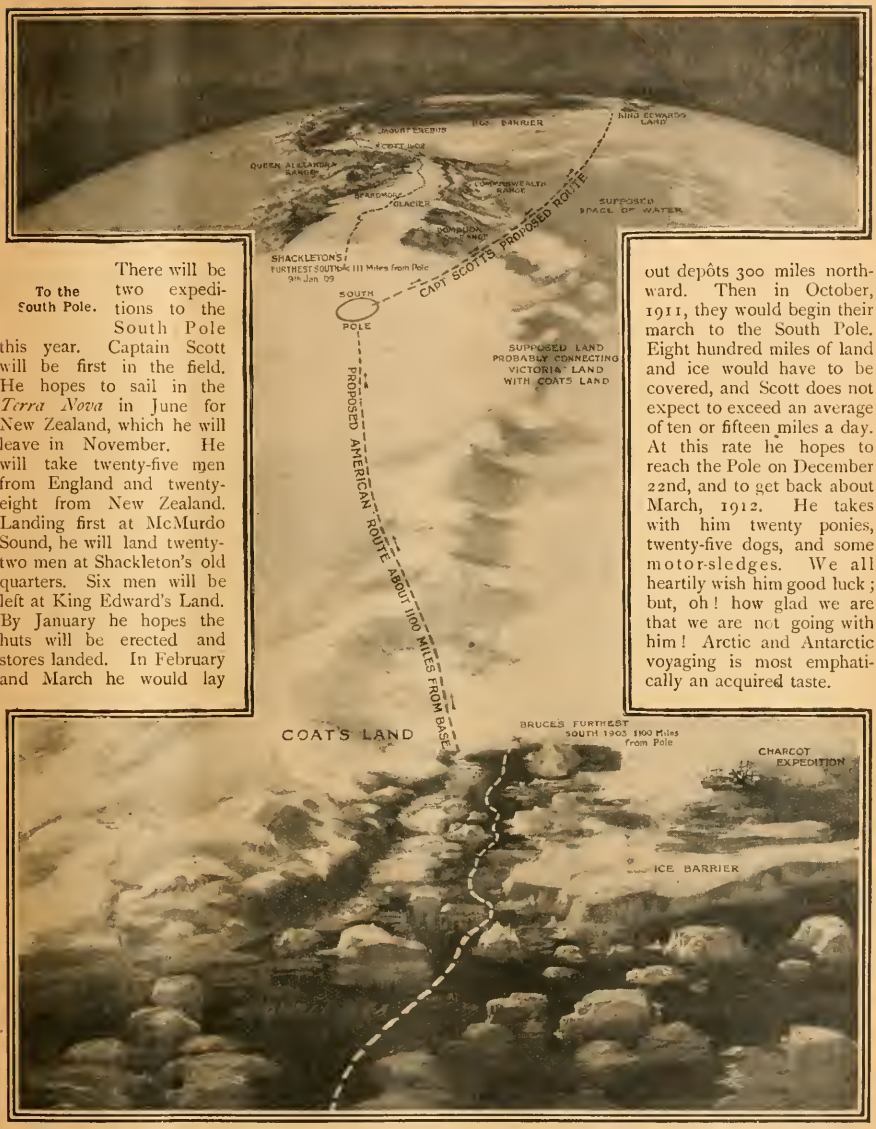
Other Conservative journalists demand the appropriation of the Liberal proposals for State insurance against unemployment and sickness, and an extension of Old-Age Pensions. The old Disraelian phrase about Sir Robert Peel—that he found the Whigs bathing and stole their clothes—appears to have furnished the Unionists with their only idea of statesmanship.

The Division on Tariff Reform.

The Opposition proposed an amendment to the Address in favour of Tariff Reform, which was rejected by a majority of 31. The Irish abstained. They are often said to be Tariff Reformers. But, as Mr. Kettle frankly avowed, the only Tariff Reform for which the Irish care a red cent—so far as they care about Tariff Reform at all—is for a tariff which would exclude British goods from Ireland. The chief importance of the debate consisted in the opportunity which it afforded Mr. Balfour and other leading men of repudiating the three leading assertions on the strength of which their followers won votes for Tariff Reform. No responsible person, say the leaders indignantly, ever said that Tariff Reform meant work for all, or that the foreigner pays the taxes imposed on imports, or that to tax food would not make it dearer. It is all very well for Mr. Balfour to say that now. But if his followers had not gone all over the country repeating these three falsehoods he would not have had anything like his present following in the House. If you allow your agents to buy asses in the open market with flash bank-notes, never letting fall a hint as to the genuineness of the notes till the asses have all been handed over to the purchaser, such "policy" is not statesmanship so much as swindling.

Disarmament.

A novel suggestion, said to be favoured by Mr. Carnegie and vigorously advocated by Mr. Hearst, reaches me from the United States. It is to the effect that Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, who arrives at Berlin in April, should be requested by Mr. Taft, on behalf of the American Government, to undertake an international apostolate in favour of disarmament. It does not appear that Mr. Roosevelt has been consulted. If his mission began at Berlin it would end there. But all these schemes of disarmament put the cart before the horse. You must first get the United States of the World to constitute a Supreme Court of Arbitral Justice. Mr. Knox's proposal to entrust the Prize Court with the functions of such an International Court has met with scant favour—not even Sir Edward Grey having a word to say in its behalf. There are two things to be done that want doing very badly: (1) A settlement of the question how the judges are to be chosen in the Supreme Court which was sanctioned at the last Hague Conference; and (2) An international agreement to boycott any Power which goes to war without having first appealed to the International Court.



To the South Pole.

There will be two expeditions to the South Pole this year. Captain Scott will be first in the field. He hopes to sail in the *Terra Nova* in June for New Zealand, which he will leave in November. He will take twenty-five men from England and twenty-eight from New Zealand. Landing first at McMurdo Sound, he will land twenty-two men at Shackleton's old quarters. Six men will be left at King Edward's Land. By January he hopes the huts will be erected and stores landed. In February and March he would lay out depôts 300 miles northward. Then in October, 1911, they would begin their march to the South Pole. Eight hundred miles of land and ice would have to be covered, and Scott does not expect to exceed an average of ten or fifteen miles a day. At this rate he hopes to reach the Pole on December 22nd, and to get back about March, 1912. He takes with him twenty ponies, twenty-five dogs, and some motor-sledges. We all heartily wish him good luck; but, oh! how glad we are that we are not going with him! Arctic and Antarctic voyaging is most emphatically an acquired taste.

ANGLO-AMERICAN EXPEDITIONS TO THE SOUTH POLE.

The above view shows, diagrammatically, the two sides of the Antarctic ice cap through which the American and British expeditions will make their attempts on the South Pole. At the upper part of the drawing is King Edward's Land, on which Captain Scott hopes to make his base.

China and Tibet.

China moves slowly but surely. Several years have passed since the ill-advised and costly British expedition marched to Lhassa and marched back again. Now we see the aftermath of that act of aggression. The Chinese, who are the overlords of Tibet, have bided their time, as is their wont. But after years of preparation they have entered Tibet and forced their way to the capital. The Dalai Lama has fled through India, and the Chinese are, with their accustomed thoroughness, taking steps to Chinify the country. Their troops, anti-Buddhist, Japanese drilled, and armed with German weapons of the most improved patterns, loot all the monasteries and scatter the Lamas. Not more than one hundred Lamas are to be allowed to remain in monasteries that formerly sheltered five thousand. The monks are roughly told to get married and settle on the land. Grants of money and land are made for five years without interest to Chinese settlers who will migrate into Tibet. It is well that Sven Hedin was able to describe Tibet as it was before it passed under the Chinese roller. The probability is that this occupation of Lhassa is one of the many signs which have been noticed of late of the awakening of the Mongolian colossus.

The New Indian Press Law.

Governments are always wasting their time and energy in attempts to suppress seditious newspapers. These papers are the symptoms of discontent. A doctor who spent all his time in trying to get rid of the eruption in the skin of small-pox or measles would effect few cures. Seditious papers are the surface rash of political disease. It is possible to suppress them, as it is possible to drive skin eruptions inwards. But the only result is to substitute privately-circulated lithographed circulars for the publicly printed and circulated newspapers. It is difficult to see what benefit accrues to the Government by such suppression. It is the common fallacy of all Governments. Drive a thing out of sight and then you can make believe it no longer exists. The Press ought to be under the law, like all other institutions, but it ought to have the same security for the just administration of the law that other institutions enjoy. If newspapers incite to crime, to murder, and to outrage, by all means let them be punished like any other criminals. Let the law provide for the due registry of the names and addresses of those responsible for the printed page, and if they are proved guilty before a jury of their countrymen, let them be punished without mercy. But that is not what the Government of India is doing. Scared by a succession of murders, they propose to place the whole of the newspaper press in India at the mercy of the local governments. At one stroke of the pen Lord Minto, with Lord Morley's approval, abolishes liberty of the Press in India.

A Gagging Bill.

Sir H. H. Risley, the Secretary of the Home Department, who introduced the Bill, took credit to the Government for not proposing a Censorship. But the Bill is infinitely worse than a Censorship. Under a Censorship we, at least, know what we may print and what we may not. Under the new Bill we are all to be at the mercy of the local governments, whose will is to be law, subject to an illusory right of appeal to three judges of the High Court:—

> The Customs and postal officers are given authority to detain and examine suspected matter, and the local governments are authorised to declare forfeit any newspaper, book, or document, and to empower the police to seize and search for the same, the check imposed being that an application is allowed within two months to a special Bench of three judges of the High Court, who will decide whether the matter came within the scope of the Bill. All other legal proceedings for action taken under the Bill are barred.

Now, what is the scope of the Bill? It is so drafted as to render it perfectly possible for the "local governments" to seize this number of the REVIEW OF REVIEWS, or, indeed, any English periodical or newspaper. Besides the clauses relating to incitement to murder, the Bill defines as Press offences:—

> To excite racial, class, and religious animosity and hatred, and contempt of the Government or of a native Prince.
>
> To incite to criminal intimidation and interference with law or order.

Now I put it candidly to Lord Morley and his advisers whether "local governments" in Ireland would not have felt themselves justified under such information to have confiscated the *Pall Mall Gazette* any time during 1880–3, when it preached the doctrine that "Force is no Remedy," and continually excited animosity against the coercionist *régime* in Ireland?

What is Exciting Animosity and Contempt?

To publish in parallel columns Lord Morley's utterances in the *Pall Mall Gazette* and legislation sanctioned by Lord Morley to-day would probably be held by Customs and postal officers and local governments as exciting contempt of the Government. To publish the simple facts of some scandalous outrage by a native Prince would bring the Press under the lash of the law. The greater the truth the greater the libel, and as Mr. Gladstone's exposure of the

Neapolitan prisons and of the Bulgarian atrocities showed, there is no more effective method of exciting animosity and contempt against a Government than by simply setting forth the deeds which that Government has committed. It will be impossible for any honest tribune of the people henceforth to call attention to the most flagrant abuses and outrages committed in the name of the Administration in India without exposing himself to financial ruin. By gagging the Press in this lawless fashion Lord Minto voluntarily deprives himself of any effective check upon the misdeeds of his officials. All criticism of their actions will be treated as interference with law and order. This Bill renders it impossible for me to publish an Indian edition of the REVIEW OF REVIEWS. But it is absolutely worthless as a check upon the circulation of the subterranean literature of anarchy and murder. To sit on the safety valve and at the same time to feed the furnace with resin and pine can only have one result.

The Release of the Deportees.

The passage of the Indian Press Gag Act was immediately followed by the announcement by the Viceroy that a number of political suspects who had been deported by order of the Government would be allowed to return home. The pretext for this most welcome act of clemency and justice was in effect the same as that which justified the release of Mr. Parnell from Kilmainham. The fight is now with the terrorists, the assassins, the Indian equivalents to the Irish Invincibles; and the Government hoped it could rely upon the assistance of its former moderate opponents in combating the new foe. There has been no Kilmainham Treaty, I fear, and arbitrary deportation of a political opponent is an odd way of converting him into a political ally. If Lord Minto is so anxious to secure the support of moderate men of all parties, why does he pass a Press Act which confounds loyal and temperate critics of the Administration with the advocates of murder, anarchy and terrorism?

The Indian Problem.

One of the maddest things in all the controversy about how India should be governed is the insistence, by those who would reserve all power in the hands of the Anglo-Indians, upon the extraordinary multiplicity of races and religions in that country. Take, for instance, Lord Cromer's exposition of the non-homogeneity of India:—

"In the last census 147 distinct languages were recorded as vernacular," while, "if account be taken only of the languages spoken by communities of more than a million people, 276 speak 23 different tongues," and with this diversity of speech there goes a deep diversity of religious belief. Together with a "sprinkling of Parsees, Christians, and Buddhists," there are "62 million Mohammedans," and "the 207 millions classed as Hindoos" are "split up into an infinite number."

This is true enough, but what does it prove? Not, surely, that the English-speaking nominal Christian official, who cannot speak more than one or two of the 147 distinct languages, and who shares none of these religious beliefs of his Indian fellow-subjects, can arrogate to himself an omnipotence that could only be justified by omniscience. The more complex the problem the more help you need from the people with whom you have to deal, and the less you are likely to get it if you treat every criticism of your folly as exciting animosity and contempt, and every attempt to expose the brutality and corruption of a police official as interference with law and order.

The Assassination of the Premier of Egypt.

On February 20th the Egyptian Premier, Boutros Pasha, was murdered in cold blood by a Nationalist, who combined the professions of chemist and journalist. Ibrahim Wardany, the assassin, was secretary of the Young Egyptian Congress, which met at Geneva last August. Boutros Pasha was a Copt. "I killed him," said Ibrahim Wardany, "because he signed the Soudan Commission, presided over the Denshawi tribunal, was responsible for the Press Law, and was in favour of the extension of the Suez Canal Commission." The crime has naturally excited much sensation, but it is always well to minimise rather than to maximise the significance of such assassinations. The liability to be murdered is one to which all statesmen are exposed. But, except in the worst times in Russia, they do not have to pay heavier premiums for insuring their lives than other people.

Greece, Turkey and Crete.

The four Powers have forbidden the Cretans to attempt to take part in the elections to the Greek National Assembly. The situation at Athens during the whole of last month has been characterised by great unrest, and rumours have been rife of the intention of the King to abdicate. The one reassuring feature of the situation has been the quiet persistence of Colonel Tsorbas and the Military League to keep control of the situation. If, under pretext, the Military League were to be dissolved, chaos would come again. A private correspondent writing to me from Athens, February 13th, says:—

I think if the people of England realised what is going on in Greece they would give every possible help, financial as

Kladderadatsch] [Berlin.

THE PROTECTING POWERS (to Crete): "Sit still; or you'll ear your trousers (Goodwill of the Powers) to ribbons!"

vell as moral. The so-called Revolutionary Party stand urely and simply for the substitution of principle in political natters for the corrupt system hitherto dominant, which renders ll security of person and property impossible. Hitherto any ttempt to readjust matters, to distribute the financial burdens astly, has been promptly thwarted by the overthrow of whatver Government dared to propose such innovations. One hing is absolutely certain—under no pretext whatever must the League be induced to dissolve until it has secured the practical vorking of its programme.

f there be so much as a shred of statesmanship left n Athens or Constantinople it ought to be possible o arrange some settlement of the Cretan question as he basis for an *entente* between Turkey and Greece.

The Prussian Reform Bill.

To ask for bread and to be offered a stone does not usually excite gratitude, and it is not surprising that the democracy of Prussia is exceedingly wroth over the "Reform" Bill which has ust been presented to the Diet. The Reichstag of Germany is elected by universal suffrage. But Prussia's Diet is very old-fashioned, and is elected by a system of indirect election which gives practically the control of the Diet to the richer classes. Against this there has been for years past widespread agitation on the part of the masses. To meet this discontent, Bethmann Hollweg has brought in a "Reform" Bill, which removes none of the grievances complained of. There is to be no vote by ballot, no redistribution of seats, no universal suffrage. The only practical change is to introduce direct for indirect election, and to transfer some of the representation at present enjoyed by the plutocracy to the bureaucracy. Military and certain officials are to have more power than ever, while for the man who has nothing there is to be taken away even that little which he has. Such at least is the impression the Bill produces upon the German Liberals, who denounce it as a "brazen, brutal, unparalleled mockery of the national will." Since the introduction of the Bill there have been riotous assemblages, dispersed by sabre-slash and gunshot, in Berlin, Halle, and many other Prussian cities. The Government at present stands firm, but it is thought it may yield on the question of the secret vote.

End of the German-Canadian Tariff War.

When Germany, to express her irritation at the preference given by Canada to British manufactures declared a tariff war against the Dominion, her method of attack was to fine her own subjects who bought any Canadian goods the difference between the minimum and the maximum tariff. The Canadian Government followed suit by fining all Canadians who bought German goods thirty-three and a third per cent. of the value of these goods. Each Government punished its own subjects after the fashion of Protectionists, in order to indicate their mutual displeasure. After keeping this stupid policy of mutual injury for seven years they have got tired of it, and on March 1st Germans were free to import whatever Canadian goods they wanted without being mulcted by having to pay the maximum

Kladderadatsch.] [Berlin.

Independent!

THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR (holding his Electoral Reform proposals in his hand): "Here I stand; I can do no other. Heaven help me!"

Urbahns, Kiel.]
Prince Henry of Prussia.

[*Photo. E.N.A.*
Princess Henry of Prussia.

GUESTS OF THE KING DURING LAST MONTH.

import duty, while Canadians were delivered from the thirty-three and a third per cent. surtax levied on German goods. Like a great many other wars not limited to tariffs, this particular quarrel seems to have inflicted mutual injury on both disputants without doing either of them a ha'porth of good. The idea of "hitting back," when your goods are heavily taxed by a foreigner, by taxing his goods in retaliation is a delusion rooted in the fallacy that the foreign importer and not the home consumer pays the tax.

Old-Age Pensions in France.

The French Senate has at last passed the Old-Age Pensions Bill, which will become law this year. It is on a contributory basis. Boys under eighteen must contribute 4fr. 50c. a year; women 6fr., and men 9fr., the contributions in every case to be deducted from their wages by their employers, who must add an equal sum from their own pockets and hand the money over to the State. After paying this annual contribution for thirty years, the citizen at the age of sixty-five becomes entitled to an annual pension of £16 11s. per annum. Of this only £2 8s. is a grant from the State as a bonus upon the sum resulting from the annual contributions of employer and employed. Friendly societies approved by the Government are to be employed and paid to collect the contributions of their members.

Liberty à la Française.

According to our English ideas the French Republic seems to be in a fair way to gain unfavourable recognition as the legitimate successor of the Spanish Inquisition. Torquemada burned the bodies of heretics to save their souls. The French Republican Government now in the saddle seems disposed to throttle their souls to secure her control over their bodies. It is difficult to say whether the sacerdotal or the secular despotism is more repugnant. One's gorge rises, for instance, on reading the text of the new Education Bill introduced by the Government into the French Chamber for subjecting all primary schools to the absolute authority of the Minister of Education :—

> The State primary school inspectors will henceforth be empowered to demand from the headmasters copies of all text books, reading books, and prize books used in private schools, and the Minister of Education may prohibit the use of any of these books after consulting the Conseil Supérieure de l'Instruction Publique.

Judging from specimens given of the way in which the books in use in French public schools have been revised so as to eliminate all reference to Theism or Christianity, nothing would be less surprising than if, under the above clause, the Minister of Education were to prohibit the giving of a Missal or of a Bible as a prize book in a Catholic school. Of course it is true that these persecuting atheists are but imitating the persecuting clericals. But surely the freethinker ought not to reproduce so slavishly the besetting sin of the priest.

A New Cabinet in Spain.

It is difficult, almost impossible, for English readers to remember the names, still more to appreciate the significance, of the holders of ministerial portfolios in Spain. Last month Senor Moret, after a brief tenure of office, resigned the Prime Ministership, and was succeeded by Senor Canalejas, who is described as a Radical. At the same time, we are warned that the advent of the Radical Premier is merely a preliminary to the

installation of a Conservative successor. Senor Moret appears to have leaned too far towards the left. And his successor, although more Radical than he in theory, has consented to take Catholic colleagues to act as stop-gaps for a season.

Coalition or No Coalition in South Africa.

It being quite clear that if a coalition ministry were formed in South Africa General Botha, and not Mr. Merriman, would be the first Prime Minister of United South Africa, with Dr. Jameson as his right-hand man, Mr. Merriman has taken up his parable against coalition. He may be right or he may be wrong in his conclusion, but the reason he advances as the justification for his decision is a trifle odd. "If there were a coalition," he asked, "who was going to criticise the Government?" The answer to that is that the critics abound in all coalitions, and that, even if by some miracle they were all silenced in turn, there are always sufficient disgruntled individuals outside the widest possible coalition to supply all the criticism that is necessary to keep Ministers up to their tasks. Merrimania, as Dr. Jameson styled it, must produce some other reason for its existence than this. There seems to be no doubt that the coalition will fail, and that General Botha will occupy Groote Schuur as the Prime Minister of a Cabinet homogeneous and loyal, but preponderatingly Dutch.

The Future of Africa.

Major Burnham, writing from Cape Town to the *New York Independent*, makes the brilliant proposal to restock the empty game lands of the Far Western estates with giraffes, elands, zebras, antelopes, and ostriches from Africa. There is nothing in the climate or the soil to prevent the success of this gigantic project of inter-continental

A Princess in Strange Company.

The Princess Hélène of Orleans, Duchess of Aosta, has been distinguishing herself as a big-game hunter. One photograph shows the Princess being escorted down the river in the heart of Portuguese East Africa, in a strange Kaffir craft, the other occupants of the canoe being the principal native chiefs of the neighbourhood. The small photograph shows Princess Hélène at home.

colonisation. The one obstacle is the difficulty of inducing the American people to legislate effectively for the protection of wild animals. "So intent are we upon destruction," says Major Burnham, "that we have become the wonder of the world." Its wonder, but by no means its admiration. Possibly the Americans may become sufficiently civilised to make the export of African fauna a profitable branch of inter-continental trade before the Soudan is able to supply the whole of the cotton needed by the mills of Lancashire. Yet, according to Major Stanton, late Governor of Khartoum, that consummation will be reached in fifty years. But who can say how much cotton Lancashire will demand fifty years hence?

That Overdue Amnesty.

We hear now every week the welcome news that the Tsar of Russia is to be seen driving without escort daily in the streets of St. Petersburg. What better evidence could be afforded of the subsidence of the revolutionary fever which five years ago threatened society with dissolution? The Duma meets regularly, the various State departments function as in normal times. The French Deputies have paid a fraternal visit to the youngest of European Parliaments—all seems progressing favourably. But when is the long overdue amnesty going to be proclaimed? It is incredible that M. Stolypin can be blind to the enormous advantage that would accrue to Russian credit throughout the world if, on some auspicious occasion, say at Easter, the Tsar were to declare that he had decided to commemorate the restoration of law and order in his dominions by liberating either from prison or from exile every Russian citizen guilty solely of political offences. Actual common law crimes, murder, robbery, brigandage, and similar outrages belong to a different category, and their perpetrators should not be confounded with those enthusiasts who were guilty of no other offence than that of speaking, writing, or agitating in favour of the Revolution. It is bad policy, to put it no higher than that, to throw away such a chance of advertising to the world that Russia is once more clothed and in her right mind.

If Not, Why Not?

There is an answer to this appeal which, although not good, is nevertheless adequate to explain the otherwise inexplicable persistence of the Russian Government in withholding the amnesty which would logically follow from the triumph of law and order. Law and order may not have triumphed. M. Stolypin's Administration may indeed still be engaged in a death grapple with the forces of the revolution, but that is not the official theory. We are invited to believe that the revolutionary fever has passed away, and that Russia has once more returned to her normal state. If so, why continue to keep under lock and key, or threat of prosecution, the victims of that passing fever? When I was in Russia two years ago I was assured by Ministers that they fully recognised the irresponsibility of many whom they had locked up; but they advocated the policy of letting them out one by one, a course which entirely deprives an amnesty of all its political advantages. Of course, if Mr. R. E. C. Long be right in his article in the *Fortnightly*, and if Russia is a vast criminal lunatic asylum, in which the worst criminals are in command, that would be another explanation of the action or inaction of M. Stolypin. But assuming that Russia is not a lunatic asylum, and that the Tsar and all his advisers are not criminals, it is difficult to see why the policy of proscription, persecution, and prosecution should not be frankly and courageously abandoned.

The General Election in Finland.

The Finnish Diet which has just been elected is notable for two things—the first that it contains 15 women M.P.s, and secondly that the largest group is that of the 86 Social Democrats. The other groups are 42 Old Finns, 28 Young Finns, 26 Swedes, 17 Agrarians, and one lone representative of the Christian Labour Party. If the Agrarians and the Christian Labour Member are added to the Social Democrats the Socialist Party will command 104 votes, while all the other parties only number 96. The women do not form a separate woman's party, but are distributed among the various groups. The ascendency of the Socialists will hardly make for the adoption of a conciliatory policy on the part of the Russian Government, which is only too prone to yield to the temptation to snatch at the forbidden fruit beyond the frontier. The French Deputies and Senators who have visited St. Petersburg and Moscow do not appear to have been invited to visit Helsingfors. It is to be hoped when the British Parliamentary group visits Russia this Easter, or whenever it may be, they will spare a day or two to look up the Finnish Diet. Finland is the one State within the Russian Empire which has always enjoyed parliamentary institutions.

The Physical Condition of our School Children.

The first report of the medical officer at Whitehall on the result of the inspection of children leaving or entering public elementary schools in England is a very interesting

and suggestive document. One child in every thirty of those entering school suffers from ear disease; one in every ten on leaving school had something wrong with his eyes; and more than one-half had more or less decayed teeth. From 13 per cent. to 30 per cent. of the children suffer in their tonsils and from adenoids. Five towns have established ringworm clinics. Cambridge led the way with its dental clinic; thirty-seven school authorities have engaged 300 school nurses, 158 of whom are half-timers. Miss Margaret Macmillan describes with proper pride how Bradford leads the van of progress in school hygiene. Bradford not only builds school baths, and cooks for its scholars, but it maintains a large school clinic of eleven rooms :—

> There is a kind of nursery (or room where the nurse shampoos and attends to children generally), three reception-rooms (where children are examined and treated) three doctors' rooms, where less detailed examination is done, a large reception-room for parents, comfortably appointed and well ventilated, a Röntgen-ray room (where children often fall asleep while the "rays" do their healing work), and two dentistries.

It costs £410 to maintain the dental clinic and £378 to maintain the general clinic. Here is a new field for philanthropic millionaires who are sick of hospitals and libraries and want to do something fresh. Why not found and endow clinics for elementary school children all over the land? This would be much more useful preventive work than endowing hospitals to repair the physical frame which has been allowed to decay under our eyes.

A Murderer's Paradise.

According to Mr. Andrew D. White, former President of Cornell University and first Plenipotentiary of the United States at the Hague Conference of 1899, the American Republic bids fair to beat creation as the most murderous of all civilised countries. Belgium has more murderers in proportion to her population than any European country, but her maximum is only one-eighth what is now the American normal. The number of murders in the United States has gone up with leaps and bounds. In 1890 there were only 1,500 murders. In 1909 there were 8,000. Canada, just across an imaginary geographical line on the same Continent, a new country also peopled with the most adventurous people of the Old World, keeps down her murder average to one-forty-third the American ratio. Why is this? Admitting that the United States has far greater masses of Old World lawlessness to deal with than Canada, that fact is insufficient to account for the enormous excess of murders in the Republic. Mr. White attributes it largely to the sympathy bestowed on criminals and the impunity which murderers consequently enjoy. Capital punishment has been practically abolished, and the assassins flourish.

The Censorship at Home.

Our London libraries have made a bad beginning with their censorship. Animated no doubt with the best intentions, they have done what nearly all censors invariably do; they have fallen foul of books which have a moral purpose. Their interdict upon Mr. S. B. Hyatt's "Black Sheep" can only be justified on grounds that would put the Bible in the index, while if Mafy Gaunt's "Uncounted Cost" is to be ruled out as improper, it is difficult to say what novels we are to be permitted to read. It is always so. Those writers who treat adultery seriously and tragically are banned, while those who, in the famous phrase of the dramatic censor, give to adultery a comic turn, are regarded as "quite all right." D'Annunzio's new novel, "Forse che si, forse che no," which the *Times* declares is untranslatable in English, owing to the way in which the author penetrates to the most loathsome depths of human passion, and revels in depicting the bestiality of human love, would probably pass muster with our new censors if translated. In the original they circulate it freely. But we suppose there is no need of censorship for those who can read Italian. Note Several Free Libraries—Bradford not being one—have refused to circulate Mr. Wells's "Anne Veronica."

The Liability of Trades Unions.

The Taff Vale decision, which defined the liability of Trades Unions for damages for strikes for which they are responsible, has now been eclipsed by the Danbury decision in the Connecticut Courts. A hat-making firm, named Loewe and Company,

Photograph by [*Russell and Sons.*

Mr. George Barnes, M.P.
Chairman of the Labour Party.

having refused to employ none but Union labour, were boycotted by the Trades Unionists, and denounced throughout the Union as "unfair." The United Hatters of America and the American Federation of Labour joined hands in order to make the boycott complete. Loewe and Company brought a claim against 241 local members of the Hatmakers' Union, claiming damages which the jury assessed at £14,800—a sum which, it is stated, is automatically tripled by the Sherman Anti-Trust Laws. The net result of the verdict, therefore, is that each of the 241 local members of the Trades Unionist is ordered to pay £200 as damages for attempting to boycott a firm which refused to submit to the terms of the Trades Unions. The case is to be appealed against. But the decision, as might be imagined, has excited the liveliest interest in Trade Unionist circles throughout the world.

The Latest Journalistic Knight.

Although somewhat late, I must heartily add my congratulations to those which have been showered upon Sir Kyffin Thomas, of the *Adelaide Register*, upon his knighthood. The new knight was the chairman of the Imperial Press delegates when they visited this country last year. He had the good word of all men, and the confidence of all his colleagues. He has a long and honourable Press record behind him, and I hope that Sir Kyffin Thomas may live many years to get used to the feel of a handle to his name.

Photograph by] [Elliott and Fry.

Sir Robert Kyffin Thomas.

Some regret has been expressed that no similar honour was bestowed upon Mr. H. Brittain, the indefatigable secretary and general factotum of the visit. Mr. Brittain richly deserved the honour, and deserved it not the less because of the austere integrity of public virtue which led him, at the moment when the knighthood was hanging in the balance, to fill his windows with caricatures of the Ministers on whose favour it depended, and to fling himself heart and soul into an electoral campaign against the Government.

The Thoroughbreds of the Race.

The Jews are to the human race very much what the pure-bred Arab steed is to the equine world. But whereas the Arab thoroughbred is used freely to improve other breeds of horses, the Jew obstinately objects to be utilised in the same way for the purpose of raising the intellectual level of the human race. He is afraid, he says, of debasing the purity of his blood. But the Arab strain of blood runs through the veins of a million European horses without impairing the purity of the desert stock. If half the Jews of the world intermarried with other races the other half would keep the original fount free from debasement. The *Journal of the Anthropological Institute* for February, which has conducted an interesting inquiry into the comparative intellectual capacity of the English and the Jews, says that "children of mixed marriages have more ability than that attributed to either of the parent stocks." The chance of finding a distinguished man in a million Jews is declared to be considerably greater than among a million Englishmen. It is curious to note that no Jew seems to have been distinguished (1785–1885) as a sailor, an engraver, or in agriculture. Few reached eminence, compared with Englishmen, as authors, divines, engineers, soldiers, statesmen, or as travellers. On the other hand, more Jews than Englishmen became famous as actors, chess-players, doctors, merchants, metaphysicians, musicians, poets and philologists. In philology the Jew outnumbers the Englishman by ten to one, in music by seven to one. This is the more remarkable as the Jews never cultivated music for eighteen centuries. They blossomed late, like the aloe, but then they burst full-flowered on the stormy stem of time. Note that the writer of the paper in the *Anthropological Journal* remarks that one source of the intellectual superiority of the Jews is due to the fostering of intelligence that is implied by the very word "Dissenter." A nonconformist, a dissenter, a heretic, is compelled by his very name to discover a reason to justify his attitude to the rest of the world.

Cheapening Lord Mayors.

Time was when we had no Lord Mayors save those of London, York, and Dublin; but some years ago the mayors of the larger provincial towns were allowed to style themselves

Lord Mayors, and the cheapening of the famous honorific title began. Every mayor of a town with more than 100,000 population begins to feel he has grounds for hoping that he too may be called Lord in time. Last month Norwich received permission to Lord its Mayor because it is the chief town in East Anglia and because also of its proximity to the King's residence! Portsmouth is now clamouring to be Lorded as the chief naval port and as the doorstep of the kingdom. Let them all come in! Little Peddlington will find good and sufficient reason for being allowed to bring up the rear of the lordly procession. What a pity it is, with such a craving for titles, the King does not do something to rescue the ancient and honourable title of esquire from the discredit into which it has fallen. If no one were allowed to be styled esquire or his wife madame unless he had rendered the community some unpaid service, much good would result. It is announced that there is at last to be an official Register of Baronets. Why not supplement it by an official list of esquires?

Macedonia Once More.

Dr. Dillon, in his survey of foreign affairs in the *Contemporary*, says some pregnant words as to the wanton waste of money on armaments that are never used, and which in a few years become obsolete. "Money is being literally annihilated, and with it money's worth in culture." All the nations—excepting Russia, which this year, for the first time since 1888, has a budget without a loan—are borrowing, or have borrowed, money in order to pay for weapons which ten years hence will be useless. Bulgaria, last month, borrowed £3,000,000 on 4½ per cent. stock issued at 91. Roumania has borrowed £5,000,000 in Germany. Hungary has borrowed half a milliard francs in France. Poor Greece wants to borrow £6,000,000, but cannot find a lender. Turkey, more fortunate, has raised a loan without a special guarantee. Does it mean peace or war? Probably peace. Anyhow, it is better to waste money in preparing for war than to spend ten times as much in making war. The danger point at present is Macedonia, where the truce of two years appears to be at an end. If Russia and Austria can but agree to act together and in harmony with the other Powers in encouraging the Turkish Liberals to restrain their Reactionaries from renewing the Reign of Terror in Macedonia, there will be no outbreak in the Balkans when the snow melts. Otherwise there is considerable danger that the soldiers who now rule at Stamboul may get out of hand.

Exit Chinese Labour.

The announcement that the Rand mines are finally freed from Chinese labour is a welcome reminder of the thoroughness with which the Liberal Party has carried out its programme and the brilliant success which has followed its stern adherence to principle. All the authorities declared that the reversal of the Chinese labour policy of the Tory Government would result in the ruin of the gold-mining industry. We are now in a position to test the value of these predictions in the cold clear light of undisputed statistics. The output of gold has increased steadily as the number of the Chinese decreased. In 1906 it stood at 25½ millions. In 1907 it was only £75,000 short of 30 millions. It was alleged that native labour was unprocurable, and that any increase of white miners would increase the working cost to such an extent as to render profitable mining impossible. There has been no lack of native labour, and the 12,414 whites employed in 1907 have increased to 21,305, with this astonishing result that the working cost has fallen from 31s. 2d. per ton in 1903, to 17s. 1d. per ton. Verily it would seem that even in the Rand the old saying is true, that Godliness is profitable for the life that now is as well as for that which is to come.

The Need for Social Centres—a Case in Point.

It is impossible for me to publish the innumerable appeals sent in to the REVIEW asking for help in the carrying out this, that, or the other excellent social scheme. But I must make an exception just for once to an appeal sent me from Hoxton and for two reasons. It is sent me by Mrs. Rae, who founded there the Girls' Guild of Good Life on the day I went to gaol, twenty-five years ago, and relates to a scheme for the development of the social institute which has grown out of Hoxton Hall, which thirty years ago, was the focus and rallying point of the Blue Ribbon movement. The guild and institute now sorely need £2,500 for an extension of the premises. The case for the girl's parlour and the young man's club in a working-class district is thus simply stated by Mrs. Rae:—

> When their mothers go out to work, or to the public-house they have to lock up their rooms lest things be stolen. The girls constantly return from work to find themselves locked out and there is nothing before them but to roam the streets, go to the public-houses, or cheap music or dancing halls. On wet nights some shelter, however bad, *must* be found. This is the ruin of many. The young men also need a room open every night where they can read and write in quietness. These young people have no home life—many live in one, or perhaps two rooms, and when they return to them there is but little space with washing hung from the ceiling, cooking going on, and often crying children thronging round. There is little indu

ment for them to stay in such a home, and they will not do it, nor do their parents want them, but it often means going from bad to worse.

The Guild and Club have been doing good work in Hoxton; but their needs have grown and they want new premises. An American lady has promised the last £500. The mother of one of the members of the Girls' Guild, when dying, as her last request asked the survivors to give her a cheap funeral so as to be able to give £1 out of her insurance money to the fund. If any of our readers wish to help would they kindly send their subscriptions to Mrs. Sara Rae, Hon. President, 17, Darenth Road, Stamford Hill, N.

The Future of Woman's Suffrage.

I am afraid I was rather unjust to the Woman's Suffrage societies and their work at the General Election in the last number of the REVIEW. They have supplied me with reports showing that, although the daily papers reported little or nothing that was said on the subject during the Election, a great deal of energetic work was done, and the women are very well satisfied with the result of their labours. The precise number of M.P.s returned who are pledged to woman's suffrage is not yet known, and as there is not the remotest chance of any legislation on the subject this Session, it will be difficult to know how many legislators are actually pledged. The lists professing to give the names of supporters are misleading. Mr. Arthur Balfour, for instance, figures in these lists on the strength of declarations of his in bygone years. But if Mr. Balfour were Prime Minister to-morrow would he still be a supporter of Woman's Suffrage? I doubt it. But there is always the chance that the Conservatives, believing that the enfranchisement of women will double the advantage their party at present enjoy by the plural vote, may concede the suffrage. That is what the Liberals dread.

The Great Pageants of 1910.

London this year is to have two pageants of exceptional interest. Mr. F. R. Benson is organising the Pageant of the Army, which is to be presented in the grounds of the Bishop of London at Fulham, and Mr. F. Lascelles is preparing the Pageant of London and the Empire at the Crystal Palace. The former will show the evolution of the British soldier from the earliest days down to the last product of Mr. Haldane's organising genius. It will portray the most stirring incidents in our military history, our victories, and at least one defeat—that in which Jeanne d'Arc scattered the British forces at the battle of Patay. At the Crystal Palace the attempt will be made to present in a series of twenty-four scenes, not merely the growth of London from the time of the Roman Conquest to the present day, but a revelation of the Imperial City as the living heart of our world-wide Empire. The design is ambitious. It appeals to the imagination of our kin beyond the sea, and thousands of Colonials have promised to take part in the pageant. Whether the path of evolution will lead from Imperial pageant to Imperial Parliament, who can say? The reconstitution of the House of Lords gives us at least a chance.

Fallen by the Way.

At the early age of forty-nine there passed away on the 5th of last month one of the most erudite of our philologists. Mr. James Platt, Jun., had been for many years one of the most valued of the band of voluntary helpers by whose aid Sir James Murray is building up his great English Dictionary. He was the son of Mr. James Platt, of St. Martin's Lane, and brother of that brilliant and daring writer, Mr. William Platt, to whose divination of the genius of love I have repeatedly called attention in these pages. Few living philologists could vie with the deceased for variety of knowledge. He had a fair acquaintance with every known language, ancient or modern, and a special taste for those which are least in the ordinary run, such as, for instance, the many tongues spoken on the American continent, from Patagonian to Esquimaux. Philologists will probably remember his brilliant article on the latter language which appeared in the *Athenæum* some few years ago. Add to these accomplishments a phenomenal memory and an astonishing range of reading, and it will be seen that James Platt was eminently fitted for the dictionary work in which he specialised. He read the proofs of Murray's Dictionary before they were passed for press, continuing to do so despite the fact that he was a chronic invalid for the last two years of his life. He leaves a widow and one child.

Photograph by] [*Lafayette, London.*

OUR SOVEREIGN LORD THE KING.

CHARACTER SKETCH.

OUR SOVEREIGN LORD THE KING.

I realised, as I had never done before, the enormous advantage of having the national unity and our Imperial greatness embodied in a person who is carefully trained for that position from the cradle, and who, in attaining it, is not compelled to make intense political enemies of one half of the nation. To have created a centre of equilibrium in the midst of all the forces which surge and sway hither and thither in the turmoil and strain of modern life, to have made this central point the advance of all honour and the symbol of all dominion, and to have secured it at once from the strife of tongues and the conflict of parties, without at the same time endangering the liberties of the subject or the supremacy of law—this indeed I have learned to regard as one of the most signal achievements of our race.—"From Republicanism to Monarchy," p. 23.

A YEAR or two ago I was asked by the editor of one of the most widely circulated of all American magazines to write an article explaining to the democracy of the New World why monarchies still existed in Europe. I replied by writing an article in which I tried to explain what seemed to Europe the still greater mystery why no monarchy had yet been established in the New World. The editor replied that it was absolutely impossible for him to administer such a shock to the Republican sensibilities of his readers as to publish an article which set forth that Monarchy was normal and the Republic abnormal in political society. Yet since history began nine human beings out of every ten, probably nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand, have lived and died as subjects of Sovereigns, whether called Dictators, Emperors, Kings, or Pharaohs. The Republican may be the choicest flower of the most advanced form of evolution, but he is, as this world goes, a scarce breed. There are no Republics in Asia, which has always been the greatest banked-up deposit of multitudinous humanity of all the Continents. In Europe the French and the Swiss alone prefer the Republican form of government to the monarchical. Only in America does Republicanism live and thrive. Even there Porfirio Diaz has converted one nominal Republic into a real despotism, and his example is emulated by more than one Latin-American President.

THE RENAISSANCE OF MONARCHY.

The simple fact is that there has been a great renascence of the Monarchical idea in Europe in the last half-century. The glowing enthusiasm of 1848 has perished so completely that it is unknown to the new generation. Social Democrats have not found anything to conjure with in the word Republic. New States like Norway and Bulgaria prefer to be ruled by Kings rather than by Presidents. Spain has tried a Republic, only to revert to Monarchy. France is Republican. But it is a drab Republic which excites no enthusiasm, and commands only the respect due to a humdrum system which keeps the machine going. The triumphs of the German Monarchical system in 1871 profoundly impressed Europe. The experience of Austria-Hungary has convinced everybody that a Francis Joseph is indispensable if the Empire-Kingdom is not to go to pieces.

THE BRITISH MONARCHY (LIMITED).

But it is in England that the revival of the Monarchical principle (limited) has been most remarkable. The modern constitutional sovereign, whose power is rigidly circumscribed by usage and by statute, is invested by his position with such opportunities of influence as to make him, at such crises as the present, far and away the most important person in the State. This transformation has been chiefly due to the long reign, the shrewd good sense, and great public spirit of Queen Victoria. When she came to the Throne Monarchical stock had dropped lower than at any date since 1649. George III. was mad, George IV. was bad, and William IV. was Sailor Bill—a man whose personality neither excited enthusiasm nor commanded respect. The Girl Queen began her reign by a blunder about the bedchamber women, which called forth protests and complaints from the Tory Party that read strangely as coming from men who, since the days of the Stuarts, prided themselves on their loyalty to the Throne. But her blunder helped her to discover that the Monarchy still counted for something in English politics, and although she made frank confession that she had made a false step, she profited by the experience thereby acquired. When England passed under the rule of Prince Albert, the task of rebuilding the Monarchy was carried on *ohne Hast und ohne Rast*. After his death there was a period of unrest. The retirement of the Queen seemed as if it would undo all the work previously accomplished in the rehabilitation of Monarchy. It was only in seeming. The illness of the Prince of Wales and the return of the Queen to her duties sufficed to destroy the illusion of a Republican reaction, and for the next thirty years there was not even a momentary check to the Monarchical revival. When Edward VII. came to the Throne he inherited a much more important position of influence than that to which his predecessor had succeeded in 1837, and so far he has increased rather than diminished its prestige.

OUR SOVEREIGN LORD.

"Our Sovereign Lord the King" is a good sounding phrase. Austere Republicans sneer at it, and Lords and courtiers roll it under their tongues as a sweet morsel; but whether we like it or not we have all got to recognise the fact that when any constitutional

crisis comes to a head Edward VII. is the master of the situation. He is our Sovereign Lord the King; master of all the parties and all the politicians. The supreme power has come to him. It is probably a great bore to him. It is a great burden and a great responsibility; but although he rigidly confines himself within the strait and narrow limits laid down for the conduct of a Constitutional King, he dominates the situation. It is a curious outcome of a series of successive Reform Bills, each of which was declared in its turn to have surrendered everything to the Revolution and to have sacrificed our ancient monarchy to Radical democracy, that eighty years after the introduction of the first Reform Act the Sovereign is more influential in a moment of crisis than any of his predecessors.

LET US FACE THE FACTS!

There are many ardent Radicals who will resent this frank recognition of the power of the King; but it is well to face the facts and to recognise things as they are. And, however deplorable it may appear to be, the plain brutal fact is that in any time of constitutional crisis we are all in the hollow of the King's hand, and he can do with us pretty much as he pleases. Our Sovereign Lord the King is indeed no mere courtier's phrase; it is the solidest reality in the politics of the day.

THE POPULARITY OF EDWARD VII.

The supreme authority of the King at a crisis like the present is inherent in his office, but it has been greatly enhanced by his personal popularity. There was a curious paragraph in the papers some time ago reporting the proceedings of a small revolutionary meeting in London. One of the speakers promised his cronies that the Social Republic would soon be proclaimed in England, and when that day comes, he added, we shall elect Albert Edward as our first President. A monarch who commands such universal respect as to have the nomination at the hands of the Reds for the presidency of the British Social Revolutionary Republic is more than "His most gracious." He is a man who has the confidence of his fellow-men.

I am no flatterer of Kings, least of all of Edward VII. I am under no delusions as to his limitations and his defects. I am afraid that I have often offended him by the plainness of my speech and the freedom of my criticism. But all the same, I have always endeavoured to do justice to his character and to make allowance for the difficulties and the temptations of his position. He has his prejudices, and he is apt to be biassed by those in whose company he takes delight. In foreign affairs he has been an influence making for peace, with one unfortunate exception, in which an exacerbated family feud, now happily ended, did much to embitter the relations between two great Empires.

"HE WHO MUST BE OBEYED.

I say these things not for the sake of being disagreeable, but in order to remind my irascible critics how absurd is their cry that I am under the glamour of the Court or that I am idealising the King. I am a plain citizen who keeps his eyes open, and who tries to see things as they are. And the one outstanding fact of the situation is that the centre of our political equilibrium at the present moment is the Throne, and that the occupant of the Throne at the present crisis is He Who Must be Obeyed.

My "Studies of the Sovereign and of the Reign," which originally appeared in the pages of this REVIEW in 1897, were reprinted at the suggestion of the then Prince of Wales, now our King, because, as he was good enough to say, they gave the most accurate description of the actual working of the Monarchy in the latest developments that he had ever read.

THE PERMANENT EDITOR OF THE REALM.

In these Studies I wrote:—

> The true theory of the position of the sovereign can best be understood by imagining the realm and all its dependencies as a great newspaper owned by a myriad shareholders, who include all the subjects of the Crown at home and over-sea. The *Realm* comes out every day. The permanent editorship of the great organ of national opinion is vested in the hands of the Sovereign, who is, however, forbidden to write any leading articles or dictate the policy of the paper. The actual work of writing the leaders and providing for the editing of the Imperial news sheet is entrusted to a temporary editor (the Premier), who, as a rule, is changed after each shareholders' meeting. The permanent editor has the sole right of nominating the temporary adjunct, limited by the condition that he must be a person who commands the confidence of the Editorial Council elected by the shareholders. Whatever the permanent editor says must be listened to respectfully. The mere right to be consulted and to have the opportunity of inspiring the temporary staff, gives the permanent editor a position of influence in the conduct of the administration immeasurably greater than that of any temporary editor. While the sovereign is technically advised by his ministers he has a vantage point from which he can advise them, and while he is in theory deprived of all authority, in practice his sagacity, his experience, his opportunities, make him practically supreme.

THE CROWN IN CRISES.

The influence of the Sovereign, great in all times, becomes paramount at times of Constitutional crisis. I quote again as to how this worked out in Queen Victoria's reign:—

> The permanent editor has no fewer than twenty-two times been confronted with the resignation of her temporary assistant. The resignation of the Prime Minister is an event which has occurred rather oftener than once every three years since the Queen came to the throne. On each of these occasions she has exercised her privilege

as a sovereign to summon to her councils whom she pleased. It is interesting to see who would have been Prime Minister if the Queen's first choice had prevailed. In 1839 the Duke of Wellington would have been Prime Minister. In 1851 Lord Stanley, and failing him, Lord Aberdeen. In 1855 Lord Derby and, failing him, Lord John Russell. In 1859 Lord Granville, and in 1880 Lord Hartington and, failing him, Lord Granville. The Queen once endeavoured to avert the dire necessity of commissioning Lord Palmerston to form an administration, and once to evade the equally unpleasant alternative of a Gladstonian Premiership. In the making of Cabinets the Queen's influence has been chiefly perceptible in inducing Lord Melbourne in 1839 and Sir Robert Peel in 1845 to resume office when they were out of it, and wanted to be out of it; in making objections to Disraeli in 1837, which is said to have so embarrassed Lord Stanley that he allowed Lord John Russell to return to office; in dismissing Lord Palmerston in 1852, and in the same year vetoing his Leadership of the House of Commons. The chief piece of Cabinet-making that stands to her credit was the success with which she brought about the formation of the Aberdeen Coalition Government of 1852, the only serious attempt that has ever been made to establish a really National Administration resting upon both political parties.

During these periods of crisis the Sovereign stands conspicuous as the real Centre of the Government and pivot of the Constitution. Sometimes these periods extend for days, during which there is never for one moment any disturbance of order or confidence. In 1845 a crisis lasted fourteen days, in 1851 nine, in 1885 twelve. We may possibly average the crisis period at a week, and if we add another ten days as the time necessary for Cabinet-making, it follows that for nearly one whole year, and that by far the most exciting year of the sixty, the Queen practically reigned alone, discharging her duties without the aid of the Ministers who had fallen and of those who had yet to be fully created.

THE KING'S INHERITANCE.

That was the achievement of the Victorian reign. The prestige, the influence, the authority attaching to the Throne passed to Edward VII. intact on his accession. He has had no occasion to put it to the test until now. But if the present crisis develops he will be confronted by a graver crisis than any which called forth the statesman-like resource of his mother. It is no mere matter of a difference of opinion between Lords and Commons upon the details of any particular measure. The crisis has arisen from a deliberate aggression by the Lords upon the privileges of the Commons, who refused supplies to the Crown in order to usurp the royal prerogative of dissolving Parliament. Due appeal having been made to Cæsar, Cæsar has given judgment against the Peers. The anti-peer coalition majority in the Commons is 124. The Election, considered as a plebiscite, gave 400,000 majority against the Peers.

HIS RESPONSIBILITY.

But if the majority had been 324 in the House and 4,000,000 in the country, nothing could be done to punish the Peers for their aggression and usurpation or to secure the privileges of the Commons and the Crown from a renewal of such attacks, save by or through the action of the King. In ordinary occasions the Monarch acts on the advice of the Constitutional advisers. The King's sceptre is then in the Prime Minister's pocket. But in extraordinary occasions when the Prime Minister advises an exercise of the Royal prerogative which in the King's judgment may endanger the Throne and imperil the Constitution of the Realm, it may be the King's duty to accept the resignation of his Ministers rather than to act upon their advice. It is in these rare but supreme moments that the King must act on his own judgment under the sense of his own responsibility.

HIS STANDPOINT.

It may be well to try to look at the situation from the King's standpoint. He is above all parties and trusted by all. That is a national and an imperial asset of the first importance. No one suspects him of doing anything unsportsmanlike; no one imputes to him any personal or class bias; he will hold the balance even and see fair. His duty is to see that the government of the country is carried on without interruption.

At present the differences arising between Lords and Commons threaten to bring the government of the realm to a standstill. The Commons may refuse to vote supplies to the Crown unless the Crown uses its prerogative to compel the Lords to pass the Veto Bill. That means in plain English that the Commons will stop supplies unless the King will create as many Peers as are needed to overbear the resistance of the House of Lords to the sacrifice of their absolute veto. If things should come to this pass what is the King to do?

WHAT IS THE KING TO DO?

The general belief among advanced Liberals and Nationalists is that the King has no responsibility in the matter. He has just to do as he is told. *Vox populi, vox Dei.* A majority of 124, with a plurality of 400,000 votes behind it, is sufficient warrant to any King to make any number of Peers. Under such circumstances, so this theory runs, it is with Kings as it was with the Gallant Six Hundred—"Theirs not to reason why; theirs but to do and die." Mr. Asquith, it is constantly asserted, must have had assurances from the King to this effect before he made his Albert Hall speech with its famous pledge. In that faith the Liberal hosts went forth conquering and to con-

quer. In that faith they wait expectant the creation of Peers by the hundred or the thousand, it does not matter which.

THE GREAT CONCILIATOR.

The assumption underlying the foregoing argument that the King is a mere automaton, who has no other duty than to do as he is told by his Ministers, even if they tell him to effect a revolution in the Constitution, is not accepted by King Edward any more than it was by Queen Victoria. It is the theory of the Sovereign that, while in ordinary times and for ordinary purposes the Cabinet has the Great Seal in its pocket, whenever a collision occurs between the two Houses of Parliament it is the duty of the Crown to take a leading part in composing differences and averting a deadlock So far from the Monarch being denied all right to act on his own judgment and to take independent initiative of his own, it is precisely at such a juncture that such independent action is imposed upon him by his position as peacemaker in ordinary to the State and balance-wheel of the Constitution.

Photograph by [*Russell and Sons.*

King Edward in Naval Uniform.

(A portrait taken last year.)

THE KING NOT AN AUTOMATON.

When two authorities are up, neither supreme, how soon confusion enters at the breach, unless it is possible to introduce some third factor which can heal the strife. The King, rightly or wrongly, does not consider that he would be obeying either the letter or the spirit of the Constitution if he were to abdicate his right of personal intervention between the warring Houses. He is bound to act on his own judgment whenever his Ministers advise him to act in a manner contrary to usage, to effect a revolutionary change in the Constitution. He may decide to act on their counsels or to reject their advice. But the responsibility of acceptance or rejection in that case rests upon him, with force undiminished by the use and wont which has destroyed his responsibility for assenting to Acts of Parliament, a function which has become purely automatic.

THE ROYAL OBJECTIVE.

This being the case, let us ask ourselves from what point of view must the King approach the consideration of the present problem? It is admitted that he is above all suspicion of party bias. He wants to see the King's Government carried on. He has to seek the line of least resistance that will lead him most safely to the desired end—the averting of a threatened deadlock. He has to do what in him lies to prevent financial confusion, legislative paralysis,

and incipient civil war. It is his duty as Sovereign, being deprived of the conjoint advice of the two Houses of Parliament, to use his judgment as to how best he can give effect to the will of the people, with a minimum smashing of constitutional china.

THE KING BEFORE THE ELECTION—

In this mood it is obvious that if the King had been asked for guarantees by Mr. Asquith before the Election, he would have acted with a rash impulsiveness altogether foreign to his nature if he had made any other than one reply:—

"It is impossible for me to give you in advance categorical assurances as to what I shall do in this, that, or the other hypothetical contingency. You are appealing to the country. I await the decision of the electors. Much will depend upon the nature of their response. If they return a working majority in your favour, then I wait to know what you intend to do with it. When I see your proposals in black and white I will then, but not till then, be in a position to come to a conclusion as to what course I shall adopt."

It is now admitted that Mr. Asquith never approached the King with any formal demand in advance for a blank cheque before the Election, and therefore I do not think that the King had any opportunity or occasion to make the foregoing reply. Both the demand and the response are imaginary; but they probably will help the reader to realise the crux of the crisis.

—AND AFTER.

When the election ended the King was confronted with a coalition majority of 124. Let us suppose that Mr. Asquith appeals to him for assurances that the Veto Bill shall be forced through. What ought the King to say? His one and only object is to secure the safe functioning of the institutions of the Realm. He has to see to it that the King's Government can be carried on. He must therefore examine every proposal submitted to him by Ministers in order to ascertain whether it promises to secure these ends. Clearly then the first question he will ask is as to the nature of the Government majority. Is it firm enough to carry on with at all? There are two more Liberals than Conservatives in the House. There are besides two groups of Labour and of Nationalists jealous of their independence, but temporarily in alliance with the Liberals on the ground of their common hostility to the Peers. Does this coalition, based on a union not of hearts but of hatred, afford a sufficiently firm basis as a foundation from which to engineer a far-reaching revolution?

IS THERE A MAJORITY?

"What security have I," the King may well ask, "whether this coalition may not dissolve on my hands, just after I have acceded to their request? They may guarantee to carry on the Government if I concede their terms. But will they be able to deliver the goods?"

That must of necessity be the first objection which the King would raise to the proposal that he should use his prerogative in order to swamp the House of Lords by four or five hundred newly created Peers of the Realm. It is a reasonable objection. No one can say, in view of the menacing speeches of the Nationalist leaders, that Mr. Asquith could guarantee the King the delivery of the goods; that is to say, could assure him that he could command the voting of supplies and the regular functioning of the Administration. The King will rightly think twice, and even thrice, before committing himself to the destruction of the Hereditary House when in the Elective House the majority is in a state of flux, of unstable equilibrium?

"SHOW ME YOUR BILL!"

But suppose the King waives that objection, and accepts a coalition majority of 124 as if it were equivalent to a Liberal majority of the same strength, what will be the next difficulty? Mr. Asquith declared at the Albert Hall that the subordination of the Lords to the Commons must be effected by statute. That is to say, there must be a Bill. The Bill must be drafted, it must be passed through the Commons, and it must then be presented for acceptance to the House of Lords. Until matters have arrived at the final stage it is premature to ask the King what he will do. It is obvious that either in the drafting of the Bill or in its passage through the House of Commons difficulties might arise which would render it unnecessary to consider its future fate. The King might fairly say, "I cannot give you a blank cheque. You cannot ask me in advance to promise to force any Bill that you may hereafter choose to draft down the throats of the Lords. Make up your own minds as to what you want before you ask me for assurances as to what I shall do."

THE FINANCIAL VETO.

Take the question as to the division of the problem into two parts. Mr. Asquith distinctly hinted that the veto on the Peers intermeddling with finance would be treated separately from their veto on legislation. This idea, however, has been abandoned, as Mr. Redmond would not have it at any price. The King might fairly say that the result of the election justified him in believing that the nation was in favour of the restoration of the old uncontrolled right of the Commons to deal with finance, while he did not regard it as affording an adequate mandate for such a revolutionary innovation as the destruction of the Lords' veto on legislation. To replace the old invariable usage preventing the Peers from meddling with finance by a statutory enactment is one thing that, in the opinion of the King, might legitimately be pressed upon the Peers. But to ask him to swamp them with 400 new creations in order to destroy their veto, that is a demand which needs

better backing than a majority of two Liberals over the Conservatives, even with the more or less reliable support of the other two members of the coalition.

PRECEDENTS?

The King, like all men in his position, hesitates a long time when asked to take any step for which he can find no precedent in the records of the Monarchy. This is natural and right. It may be that Queen Victoria was too nervous in this respect. If she had but insisted upon exercising her Royal prerogative to make Life Peers in the Wensleydale case she might have cleared the way for a tolerable solution of the present crisis. But a small Tory majority of thirty-five blocked the way with their protest that Life Peerages were unprecedented, and the Crown gave way. The King might naturally shrink from taking a revolutionary new departure such as would be involved in the wholesale creation of Peers for swamping purposes. The same forces of obstruction that foiled the Crown in the Life Peerage question might be invoked against the admission of this enormous influx of Peers which would be created for the purpose of swamping the hereditary chamber.

THE HEREDITARY PRINCIPLE.

There is another matter which weighs very much with the King. He sits on the throne by virtue of the hereditary principle. He, as much as any member of the Upper House, owes his position to an accident of birth. At present the Monarchy and the House of Lords are the only institutions in the country that are based on the hereditary principle. To destroy the House of Lords by flooding it with four hundred shoeblacks or old-age pensioners, created merely to vote away the veto, would be a kind of fratricide in which the hereditary king would slay the hereditary legislature. After the deed was done the King would feel "dreffel lonely." He would be the only hereditary in the Empire. He does not like the solitude of such a position.

WHAT THE KING WILL DO.

The more reluctant the King may be to make his prerogative the crowbar of the revolution, the more cautious he will be to commit himself to anything in advance. That he will strain to the uttermost all that can be done by persuasion, entreaty, argument, to bring the opposing parties together, may be taken as a matter of course. But the King did his utmost to save the situation before the Peers rejected the Budget, and failed. He failed for a very simple reason. He brought his influence to bear upon men who, although the nominal, were not the real leaders of the Opposition. He saw Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Balfour. He ought to have seen Mr. Garvin. Hence his failure to avert the collision which precipitated the dissolution, and now confronts him with a heterogeneous coalition majority in the Commons and a mutinous House of Lords, in which reaction is rampant. The King keeps his own counsel But the King will be as cautious as an elephant in testing the strength of any bridge which he is invited to cross. He will not assent to anything in advance. He will do his duty when the time comes, but never a blank cheque will he sign. Neither will he enable any minister to bluff the Opposition by assurances that he has got the King in his pocket. If when the crisis ripens he sees that the only way to secure the carrying on of the Government and the avoidance of hopeless deadlock is to swamp the Peers, then he will swamp them. But we are a long way off that yet.

THE PRECEDENT OF 1832.

It will be objected that William IV. promised to create sixty Peers to force the Reform Bill through the House of Lords. To which the answer is that the promise was only given at the very last extremity, when the Bill had been passed by one House and practically rejected by the other, and when it was clear that a bloody revolution and financial catastrophe would follow a continuance of the deadlock. Under similar circumstances King Edward might act like King William. It seems to be forgotten that King William never gave Earl Grey assurances as to the creation of Peers that could be used as a blank cheque before the Reform Bill was presented to the House of Commons. It was only at the very last moment, and with the utmost possible reluctance, that William IV. gave in. Ministers had to resign first. The Opposition leaders were given a chance of forming an Administration. It was only after they had admitted they could not accept the responsibility of taking office that the King yielded, and promised, if necessary, to make sixty Peers in order to force the Reform Bill through the House of Lords. Is it likely that the present King will make less objection about creating four hundred Peers than William made to creating sixty? To create sixty Peers is one thing, to create four hundred is altogether another operation.

I am in no sense in the King's counsels. All the foregoing is pure speculation on my part. But if anyone honestly tries to put himself in the King's shoes and thinks out the problem as it must appear to the King to-day, I do not think that he will fail to come to the conclusion that the above speculation is not very far off the mark.

THE KING'S LINE.

The King will loyally abide by constitutional usage. He will dutifully act upon the advice of his ministers until they tender such advice as in his judgment shakes his confidence in their judgment. In that case he will seek new advisers. But he will naturally strain every point in order to avoid such a breach with the only statesmen who have any chance of getting supplies through the House of Commons. He will avoid meeting trouble half-way. He will give no blank cheques. He will wait till the crisis reaches a point necessitating his intervention before he will interfere or even say how he will interfere. One step at a time will be his motto,

and no general assurances will be given as to what course will be taken in hypothetical contingencies.

ITS PENALTY.

This is, of course, gall and wormwood to eager reformers. There will be mutterings of disloyalty and, in some quarters, threatenings of a revival of the Republican agitation of the sixties. "If the King identifies the hereditary monarchy with the hereditary legislature then let him share their fate." Such will be the cry of many hotheads amongst one party; but a moment's reflection will convince all saner minds that this kind of talk is suicidal nonsense. If we had secured a homogeneous majority in the new House we might have some excuse for such bullying clack; but with a majority against the Government of thirteen among the members for all England we are not exactly in a position to browbeat the King into doing anything which he thinks unwise.

THE STRENGTH OF THE CROWN.

It is not sportsmanlike to savage the referee if he refuses to give a decision in our favour. No. Our Sovereign Lord the King has a free hand in this matter. He is trusted by everybody. If he says "No," his decision will be accepted with regret, no doubt, in many quarters, but with loyal obedience. The Nationalists may rage and the Labour Party may fume, but no politician who has not absolutely taken leave of his wits would make a present of the Crown to his opponents. If the King refuses to make peers to abolish the veto, and Mr. Asquith resigns, what will be the result? Mr. Balfour will be summoned to the King's councils, and the result will be a new election forthwith, in which, even if Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Balfour tried to avoid it, every Tory canvasser would ask for votes to save the King from Radical dictation, the Constitution from revolutionary Socialists, and the Empire from dismemberment. As they fought and won under the Union Jack in 1886, 1895 and 1900, so they will win next time as the champions of the King.

No one can deplore such an outcome of the situation so much as the Liberals, unless it be the King himself, who would rightly regard the exploitation of the Throne in the cause of any party as dangerous and unconstitutional. But we are face to face with a revolutionary party—the Party of Reaction and Protection, which for the achievement of its end is quite ready to stake the Monarchy, as it has already staked the Peers, to promote its own immediate chances of success. They are short-sighted and as reckless as all gamblers. The King has to take long views, and he has too much at stake to play double or quits with men who use loaded dice.

THE KING'S DUTY.

But the King cannot help himself. If the Liberals should insist upon his swamping the House of Lords, and he should be honestly convinced that the verdict of the late election was not decisive enough to justify him in laying violent hands upon the hereditary chamber, then he is bound to refuse and to take the consequences. And the first immediate consequence that his new Ministers would immediately dissolve Parliament and appeal to the country to give them a majority to enable them to carry on the Government of the King.

And if they would postpone all nonsense about Tariff Reform they would get their majority. For Englishmen are practical persons, and they recognise the King's Government must be carried on. There is no chance of its being carried on until the three parties to the coalition weld themselves into a more compact and homogeneous majority.

The Liberals, the Labour men, and the Nationalists might swear that they would avenge themselves horribly upon the Monarchy. We might, and probably should, see a revival of a Republican propaganda in our midst. But no one knows better than those who may indulge in such threats that any party is hopelessly handicapped at an election which can be accused, with or without reason, of disloyalty to the King. That is so to-day when the franchise is confined to men. It will be even more so to-morrow when women receive the vote. Hence I end, as I began, by saying that "Our Sovereign Lord the King" is the phrase of the situation. We are all in the hollow of his hand, and what he says goes.

Impressions of the Theatre.

"THE O'FLYNN" AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

MR. H. A. JONES has been holding forth about the difference between the legitimate drama and the other thing which he describes as "legs and tomfoolery." There are no "legs" in "The O'Flynn," but there is not a little tomfoolery. Indeed, it might almost be said that it is all tomfoolery of a rollicking, jolly, devil-may-care species, which no one need take seriously, and at which everyone can laugh heartily. Mr. Justin Huntley McCarthy must be congratulated upon his highly original idea of creating an original play by carefully compacting together the leading incidents in various other plays, giving it a new name, and serving it up as a new melodrama. It is a capital idea and capable of immense development. Why not pillage all Shakespeare's comedies in order to build up out of the plunder an original drama all your own? By dint of purloining bits of witty dialogue from one play, a dramatic situation from another, part of the plot from a third, we might soon supply the Repertoire Theatre with brand new masterpieces every line of which and every idea had the hall-mark of some well-known classic.

The O'Flynn is Sir Herbert Tree; in appearance a curious cross between a troubadour and Oliver Cromwell; in character the typical stage Irishman, upon whom Bernard Shaw has placed his ban; and in adventure like one of Alexander Dumas' heroes. The play rather smacks of "Charles O'Malley" and other of Lever's romances. The scene is laid in Ireland in 1690, just before the Battle of the Boyne. The O'Flynn, an Irish soldier of fortune, whose ancestral castle is in ruins, and, worse still, in the hands of the bailiffs, is induced to join the side of King James for love of my Lady Benedetta, a wealthy and beautiful Irish heiress, who is passionately devoted to the Stuarts. She is in love with and engaged to be married to one Lord Sedgemouth, a double-dyed traitor, who is worming his way into the confidence of James in order to betray him into the hands of his enemies. Hence rivalry between the O'Flynn and the villain Lord, in which the former comes off victor every time. He fights a duel while drinking punch, personates the Dutch General in command of a beleaguered fortress, and then saves King James from traitors by a similar impersonation. At last, of course, the villain is killed, and the O'Flynn and his Lady Benedetta are flinging themselves into each other's arms when the curtain falls. It is a fantastic piece of rollicking fun marred only by the too flagrantly venal amours of the little actress. There is no need for an author to make a young and attractive woman so shamelessly cynical in the avowal of her readiness to sell herself *pro tem* to the highest bidder. Some of the scenes—such as Benedetta's coming downstairs, a step for a stanza, and the Irish dance in Dublin Castle—were very pretty and very effective. The capture of the Castle seemed to be a chapter from the adventures of Baron Munchausen. But Sir Herbert Tree is The O'Flynn, and The O'Flynn is the play.

Photograph by [*F. W. Burford.*

Sir H. Tree as "The O'Flynn," and "Lady Benedetta."

Sir Herbert Tree is no longer in his teens or even in his twenties. Yet he threw himself into the part of the youthful adventurer with abandon and grace. What an Oliver Cromwell he would make! Even the Rapparee disguise could not conceal his resemblance to the Lord Protector. High praise, indeed, for versatility!

"RICHELIEU" AT THE STRAND.

One of the melancholy, almost tragic, incidents of the modern stage occurred last month at the Strand Theatre. Mr. Robert Hilton, a young and ambitious actor, who has achieved some success on the provincial stage, deemed himself justified, on a more or less hypothetical backing of £7,000, to make his *début* in London by producing Lord Lytton's play of "Richelieu" at the Strand Theatre. After playing for a few nights, it was announced that Mr. Hilton was indisposed, and the theatre was closed. The company which he had got together to support him played without pay, and everyone concerned appears to have been left in the lurch.

It is difficult to speak of the play without thinking of the fiasco of the actor who played the title-rôle. Richelieu, one of the greatest figures in French history, probably the greatest among moderns with the exception of Napoleon, is an interesting figure even when represented in the somewhat wooden and unreal play of Lord Lytton. It is a stilted theatrical piece with some melodramatic sensations which are probably the secret of its occasional resurrection.

Mr. Hilton's presentation of the great Cardinal was not without promise of a capacity to interpret the great statesman, but he would have been twice as effective if his scarlet train had been half as long. The get-up of all the gentlemen of the Court with their wigs may have been in accordance with the dress of the period, but it made them singularly unreal. The Chevalier de Mauprat was too much of a popinjay, Marion de l'Orme had no suggestion of the famous original, and Julie de Mortimer was a pretty little girl. All of them played their parts with painstaking zeal.

THE PRIZE RING ON THE STAGE.

Lord Esher's declaration *àpropos* of Sir Conan Doyle's play, "The House of Temperley," that the theatre had now replaced the church and the chapel, led me to go to the Adelphi to see what it was that had aroused such enthusiasm. I saw an interesting melodrama, exceedingly well acted, but the ethical element seemed hardly adequate to justify Lord Esher's enthusiasm. If "The House of Temperley" has any moral teaching at all it is that the prize ring is the nursing school of patriotic self-sacrifice, and that an infallible method for securing the maintenance of a voluntary army is by the practice of pugilism. The logical deduction from that would seem to be the introduction by Mr. Haldane at an early date of a brief Act legalising prize-fighting as a subsidiary means of recruiting the Territorials. Regarded as a melodrama and as a piece of acting "The House of Temperley" is splendid. But as a substitute for church and chapel—that is another story. The fact to which the play itself bears witness is that the prize ring was a centre of every conceivable kind of blackguardism and fraud. The hocussing and kidnapping of champions, the cutting of the ropes, the perpetration of every kind of trick and fraud made the prize ring an abomination long before its ultimate suppression. The specimens of the fancy paraded at the supper at Tom Cribb's were, with the exception of Tom Cribb himself, enough to damn the Esher-Conan-Doyle theory. If these were the saints and heroes of the cult—heaven save us from the rank and file! The fighting in the ring was most realistic, and as a revival of an almost forgotten phase of English social life "The House of Temperley" is worth seeing.

MORALITY PLAYS.

The Rev. Thomas Phillips, of Bloomsbury Mission, is longing to be able to run a music-hall and a theatre in connection with his church. Pending the transfer of all the entertainments of London to the churches—which Mr. Phillips desires—the churches might perhaps do something to encourage the theatre under its present management when it condescends to be a teacher of Righteousness. Take, for instance, Mr. Galsworthy's new play of "Justice" at the Repertoire theatre—the Duke of York's. There you have a tragedy filling the soul of the spectator with emotions of pity and horror. Prisons are inevitable and necessary institutions, but no one really knows how they influence their inmates until he has been a prisoner himself. The Salvation Army and the Church Army, and all societies which look after prisoners, would do well to send their friends and supporters to see Mr. Galsworthy's play. Also, in the interests of humanity, one box ought to be specially reserved for the Home Secretary and the staff of the Prison Department of the Home Office, another for police magistrates and judges, while the pit and the gallery might profitably be filled by the police. The men who work the machine, who set it in motion, who feed its grim hoppers with the flesh and blood material which it grinds up and often destroys—all these should make it their duty to see "Justice." It is a grim play, and a play which grips.

Another play which ought to be considered as one of the assets of the Moral Director of the Universe is Lady Bell's clever and realistic exposition of the evils of tallymen and betting on horseraces. "The Way the Money Goes," which was admirably performed last month by the members of the Stage Society, is to be tried this month at the new Royalty Theatre. It drags a little in the first act, but afterwards the play is full of life and force, and after it has been subjected to the shaping influences of continuous representation it may emerge as a kind of morality play for the masses, which ought to do no end of good. Why should not the churches, say in Middlesbrough, unite for once in order to run "The Way the Money Goes" as a kind of mission service, charging popular prices and taking no collection?

TEXTS THAT HAVE HELPED.

AN APPEAL FOR A CO-OPERATIVE COMMENTARY.

NEARLY fifteen years ago I appealed to my readers to co-operate with me in making a selection of "Hymns that have Helped." The result of that appeal was the collection of one hundred and fifty hymns in five languages, published as a double number of "The Masterpiece Library," No. 51. My collaborators included men and women of all sorts and conditions, from King Edward—then Prince of Wales—to the humblest of his subjects. The collection was very popular, and was reprinted in a six-shilling volume in the United States.

THE GERM IDEA.

In the introduction to "Hymns that have Helped" I wrote:—

> This Hymnal has been completed by the voluntary co-operation of a multitude of willing workers to whom I appealed, in the first place, for their own experience; in the second, for the well-authenticated record of how this or that hymn has helped those "whose lives sublime, shed undimmed splendour o'er unmeasured time"; in the third place, for brief notes of instances in which hymns have altered human lives; and fourthly, for references to incidents such as that of the victor psalm at Dunbar, where a hymn has figured conspicuously in some notable episode of human history.
>
> This Hymnal has no claim to literary merit other than that which attaches to hymns which have a well-attested value as having been the channel through which mortal man has heard the voice of God, or which have enabled him to commune with his Maker. *Some day, I hope, if I may be spared, to edit a commentary on the Bible on similar principles.*

I have mercifully been spared all these years, but the co-operative commentary of the Bible, edited on the principle of collecting authentic references of human experience, has not yet been begun.

AN APPEAL TO THE READER.

Better late than never. I propose to start forthwith, and now make a direct appeal to all my readers, helpers, correspondents and friends throughout the world to assist me in my quest for the most helpful texts in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Not that I would reject any testimony as to helpful texts which may reach me from those who seek spiritual refreshment in other scriptures than those of the Jews and the Christians. But primarily this is addressed to those to whom the Old and New Testament is emphatically "The Word of God."

I have often longed for an opportunity to publish what I may call the REVIEW OF REVIEWS edition of the Bible. I have even begun to prepare it once or twice but have always laid it aside for a more convenient season. I am encouraged to hope that if this appeal should meet with widespread response, "Texts that have Helped" may be the forerunner of a handy edition of the Bible for every-day life. At present it must be admitted with regret that the excellent practice of Bible-reading has largely fallen into disuse. Family prayers have gradually succumbed to the pressure of rush-and-hurry of the modern world—to the very great detriment of family life. Various efforts have been made to rescue the good Old Book from the neglect into which it has most undeservedly fallen in many quarters.

THE BIBLE AS IT IS.

Mr. W. L. Courtney compiled "The Literary Man's Bible," Mr. St. Loe Strachey published extracts from the Proverbs, but for nine hundred and ninety-nine persons out of a thousand the Bible, the whole Bible, complete from first of Genesis to last of Revelation, is their only edition of Holy Writ. As has frequently been remarked, the Bible is not one book; it is a whole literature, a library of the writings of various authors who lived at various periods scattered over a thousand years. The ordinary reader, even including many who are regular attendants at Church and Chapel, does not know his way about in this labyrinth. It may contain treasures, but he does not know where to look for them. He turns over the pages of the Old Testament and gets befogged in minute directions as to the sacrifice of rams for burnt offerings. He turns to the New Testament and finds himself hardly less mystified by the polemics of St. Paul or the visions of the Apocalypse. The result is that in many cases he closes the book, finding it anything but a very present help in every time of need.

It is no use to tell such a man that he ought to make a critical study of the book as a whole. You might as well tell him he ought to study Greek architecture or Chinese music. He has neither time nor inclination to undertake such a task. If he forced himself to attempt the study, the experience of those who have devoted their lives to the task would not justify absolute confidence in the result. They sometimes come out as Higher Critics but not as Higher Saints.

WHAT MEN SEEK IN THE BIBLE.

What the ordinary person wants in the Bible is something that will inspire him to be his best, that will

encourage him to dare his utmost, that will give him faithful guidance, and that in times of distress, adversity, and bereavement will furnish him with the consolation he so sorely needs.

All these things are to be found in the Bible. But they are often sought for in vain by those who do not know where to seek for them. What I am now after is to enlist the help of my readers in collecting these pearls of great price from the somewhat dreary expanse of Levitical laws and the leading articles of the journalistic prophets of three thousand years ago so as to render them instantly accessible to those who need them. Henry Ward Beecher once quaintly said that when a man in sore trouble took refuge in the Psalms, he came out with comforting texts of consolation sticking to his memory as burrs stick to a boy's jacket when he emerges from a thicket. But many have gone to look for the burrs and have not found them.

THE TEST OF EXPERIENCE.

"The Spirit of Man," says the Hebrew proverb, "is the Candle of the Lord"—a dark and subtle saying which I press into my service. For it is only by the light of that Divine candle that the treasures of the Scripture can be revealed. For two thousand years our brothers have been toiling more or less wearily along the world's highway. Often when they have been ready to perish, thirst-parched or hunger-bitten, they have come upon sayings in Holy Writ which rang in their ears like the sound of a trumpet, at the hearing of which they have forgotten their pain and their sore distress and have gone forth rejoicing into battle. All along these two thousand pilgrim years our brothers have lain down to die amid the unavailing grief of those who remain behind, and alike to the dying and to the mourners by the grave there have come words of infinite consolation revealing visions of coming glory and of future reunion. The infinitely varied and poignant needs of the Spirit of Man light up the values of the gems in the treasure house of Holy Writ. Hence, in order to find out the texts that are most helpful, we have only to collect the experiences of those whom they have helped.

THE MOST HELPFUL TEXTS.

No scripture, I shall be told, is of private interpretation, and nothing can be more uncritical and unscientific than the selection of texts without reference to their context or to their original application, and their appropriation by Dick, Tom, or Harry, as if they had been spoken for their own personal and particular benefit. But Dick, Tom, and Harry can only profit by such self-appropriation, whether they select their texts from Holy Writ, from classical literature, or from the daily newspaper. I remember asking President Kruger just before his death whether he read the big Bible which lay open before him systematically or at random. "I open it where I please," he said; "everywhere are there texts adapted to my need which are revealed by the Holy Spirit." The words of Holy Writ often remain without meaning to the reader, until they are illuminated by some personal experience which, to use a familiar illustration, switches on the electric current that brings their meaning out in clear relief. It does not follow because the experience of one man enabled him to hear as it were the guiding voice of God in a certain text that, therefore, the same text will have the same message to all other men, even when they are undergoing the same experiences. But if we had a complete encyclopædia of the experiences of all those to whom the texts of Holy Writ have ministered helpfully in the pilgrimage of life, we should have for the first time the best test as to what passages in the Old and New Testaments should be first rescued from the danger of oblivion that is threatening them owing to the comprehensive completeness with which they and their husks have been preserved for our instruction.

A PRACTICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Hence my appeal. Will you, whoever you may be, who read these lines, kindly help me in this long-deferred task? I care not how humble or how lofty you may be, so long as you will but send me, however briefly, the record of your experience as to the texts that most helped you. And further—and this appeals more especially to Ministers of religion of all denominations—might I ask you to send me names of books, commentaries, biographies, etc., that would be useful in compiling the texts that have helped?

THE TEXTS THAT ARE WANTED.

There are some texts which have changed the course of history and decided the destinies of nations. There are texts by which men have surmounted almost insurmountable obstacles and have overcome almost irresistible temptations. There are texts which have been as bright as morning stars, glowing resplendent in the firmament, while there are those which have been as the soft whisper of angelic voices in the ear of the parting soul. It is those texts which I am seeking. There are many texts which have hurt and harmed by the way in which they have been misinterpreted or misapplied. There are other texts which are not, to all apparent seeming, of the remotest practical benefit nowadays to the actual life of man, woman, or child, however invaluable they may be to scholars. For them also I have no use. What I want is the most helpful texts, the quintessence of the messages of guidance, succour, consolation, and inspiration which are to be found in the written Word. It is a task of high emprise, far beyond the capacity of any single man, let alone that of an overdriven editor in the heart of London. But if my readers will but co-operate with me, then mayhap, out of our conjoint labours, there may issue a booklet which may enable millions to profit by the treasures of truth, of wisdom, and of helpfulness in the Bible to which heretofore they have had little or no access.

THE PASSION PLAY AT OBER-AMMERGAU:

ABOUT THE FORTHCOMING PERFORMANCES.

ANOTHER decade has passed, and again the villagers in the quaint little hamlet of Ober-Ammergau are preparing to give representations of the Passion Play on the open-air stage of the great theatre.

Owing to the South African War comparatively few English people visited the Bavarian village for the last representations in 1900. This year, to judge by the bookings which have been already received, the number of English-speaking visitors will largely exceed that of any previous year. Indeed, the villagers are preparing for a record number of spectators, and confidently anticipate that the actual number of performances given will be considerably in excess of the thirty now announced.

The dress rehearsal takes place on May 11th, which is ten days earlier than in 1900. The first performance is on May 16th, the last on September 25th. There are representations on every Sunday throughout the summer, and usually also on Wednesday. The Play opens at eight o'clock in the morning and continues till six o'clock at night. Despite the early start the performers are up in sufficient time to traverse the village in solemn procession and to attend church in a body. The great theatre, which seats 4,000, is reserved exclusively for the Passion Play, and is unused during the nine intervening years. During the year preceding the Play all the villagers concentrate their energies on its production. No wigs or make-up of any kind are allowed, and the long and curling locks and beards of the players are a picturesque feature of the village. The reverent feeling with which the Play is given is intensified in consequence of the origin of the Play, an origin which has preserved it to this day practically the sole survivor of similar plays which were performed in many places throughout Europe during the Middle Ages.

The Play as first performed in 1634, and throughout the centuries, down even until 1830, was a crude affair, far different from the version given to-day. Its present form is due to the parish priest, Alois Daisenberger, a born dramatist as well as a pious Christian. He saw the opportunity the performance offered, and he made the most of it.

He has left on record that he "undertook the production of the Play for the love of my divine Redeemer and with only one object in view, the edification of the Christian world." Stripping the Play of all that was ignoble or farcical, he produced a wonderfully faithful rendering of the Gospel story.

Whenever possible Daisenberger used the actual words as given in one or other of the Gospels. He took as his fundamental idea the connection of the Passion, incident by incident, with the types, figures, and prophecies of the Old Testament. The whole of the Old Testament is thus made as it were the massive pedestal for the Cross, and the course of the narrative of the Passion is perpetually interrupted or illustrated by scenes from the older Bible, which are supposed to prefigure the next event to be represented on the stage. Thus, in Daisenberger's words, "the representation of the Passion is arranged and performed on the basis of the entire Scriptures." His version, unauthorised though it be, enables all who see it to realise more vividly than ever before the human side of the martyrdom of Jesus.

There are not so many changes in the principal characters this year as there were in 1900. Anton Lang again takes the part of Christ; Johann Zwink for the third time takes that of Judas. Pilate is again represented by the Burgomaster, and all the Disciples, with the exception of Peter, John, Philip, and Bartholomew, are being played by the same actors as in 1900. Peter Rendl, who played John in 1890 and 1900, now takes the part of Joseph of Arimathea, John being played by the nineteen-year-old Alfred Bierling, who has, of course, never had an important part before. Andreas Lang, who plays Peter, was the Rabbi in 1900, and Thomas in 1890. Of the other important parts, that of Caiaphas is taken by the Nathaniel of 1900, that of Annas by Sebastian Lang, the heir of Daisenberger, who played Caia-

Anton Lang, who represents the Christ.

Ottilie Zwink.
(The Virgin Mary.)

phas in 1900. Nathaniel is played by the Ezekiel of 1900, the Rabbi by the Nicodemus of 1900, and Herod is being played by Hans Mayr, son of the famous Christus Mayr, who played the part of Christ five times, and died as Burgomaster to the village only a few years ago. It is the tradition of the village that Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Mary Magdalene, Martha, and Veronica must all be played by women under thirty years of age. Consequently none of these four principal parts is ever sustained by the same players twice in succession. This year Ottilie Zwink, the daughter of the Judas of 1890, 1900 and 1910, plays Mary, the mother of Jesus. Her father is probably the finest actor in the village, and to judge by her performance in the Mystery Play of Sebastian, which I saw last year, she will increase the reputation of the family, and should make a notable Mary, as good probably as that of Rosa Lang in 1890. Maria Mayr will certainly make a very good Mary Magdalene; altogether, the women this year will be even better than in 1900.

The performers in the Passion Play are all of them natives of Ober-Ammergau, who have, with few exceptions, passed the whole of their lives in the village. The task of allotting the parts is entrusted to a committee of nineteen men. Six of these are members *ex officio*, including the Burgomaster and the priest; the remaining thirteen are elected by the burghers of the village. During the year preceding the Play this committee meets regularly at least once a week. It appoints sub-committees to deal with many of the details. The Press Committee, for instance, has charge of the Publicity Department, photographs, etc. The General Committee selects every one of the principal players by vote, a bare majority sufficing. For the last hundred years the result of this selection has been announced on the 5th of December of the year preceding the Play. The members of the choruses and of the crowds are, however, selected earlier in the year, and they practise continually during the twelve months before the production of the Play.

In 1890 I brought out a "Guide to the Passion Play," in which, for the first time, the complete text of the Play appeared both in German and in English. I issued a similar Guide in 1900, which included many photographs, and this year I am again bringing out this Guide, but it is a better production than either of its predecessors. By special arrangement with the Community of Ober-Ammergau it contains the complete official German text, and on opposite pages the English translation. This is, of course, of the greatest value in following the representation on the stage. It contains, also by special arrangement with the Community, a series of some sixty photographs of the principal players of this year, of the tableaux, and of the principal scenes. Special articles dealing with the village, the origin of the Play, and the players, etc., with full directions how to get to Ober-Ammergau, and how to obtain seats, add greatly to the value of the book. No English-speaking person should think of going to see the Play without first obtaining it (2s. 6d. paper cover, 2s. 9d. post free; 3s. 6d. cloth cover, 3s. 9d. post free).

Johann Zwink.
(Judas Iscariot.)

In connection with the forthcoming performances of the Passion Play at Ober-Ammergau, the *Treasury* for

February publishes an article, by the Bishop of Bristol, in which the writer suggests that visitors to the Bavarian village should visit Fritzlar and Fulda on the way:—

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. BONIFACE.

Between Cologne and Munich most visitors pass through Würzburg going or returning. If, instead of going straight from Cologne to Würzburg, they go by Giessen and Cassel, or if, instead of going to Cologne, they go from London to Cassel and thence to Würzburg, they will pass on their way to Munich the places where Boniface and other English saints are still principal personages. Fritzlar is reached by a short light railway from Wabern, forty minutes from Cassel. It is a considerable town, enclosed for the most part by ancient walls, with a number of round towers at intervals. An old drawing shows, in 1640, twenty towers conically capped like the Irish round towers, and the Bishop thinks that here we may

Anton Lang with his Wife and Children.

have the origin of the round towers of Celtic Ireland. Fritzlar is also a place of beautiful houses, brick set in framework of wood of varied designs. We are told how Boniface, who had been working among the pagan Frisians, moved southwards, how he attacked the sacred oak of pagan worship at Geismar, and how a great blast of wind came and finished the work for him; how first a little oratory was built with the wood at Fritzlar, and how the saint some time later built a church on the spot and added to it a little monastery. The present abbey church of Fritzlar is an interesting building.

Sturmi was a Bavarian boy entrusted to the care of Boniface. Ordained deacon and priest, he was sent out to teach the pagans, but after three years he said he was bent upon the cloistered life. Boniface then sent him further to the south-east to seek out a suitable spot in the recesses of the great beech forest for a site for a great monastery, and finally Fulda was selected. Soon Boniface and an army of workers set about clearing the forest, and a church of stone was built. Fulda is now the seat of a bishopric, and the abbey church is the cathedral church. In this church are the tomb of Boniface and the relics of the saint, and a pageant takes place annually in his honour. In advanced age Boniface returned to Holland, and at Dokkum he and fifty companions were murdered by pagans.

A second article is to follow Burchard of Malmesbury to Würzburg, and Willibald and Walpurga of Crediton to Eichstätt.

The Village of Ober-Ammergau.

Our Editor in Ober-Ammergau.

The first four photographs in this article are copyright by J. W. McLellan.

Current History in Caricature.

By permission of the proprietors of "Punch."]

Rival Chanteclers.

ALL (together): "*My* sunrise, I think!"

Melbourne Punch.]

KITCHENER: "Ah! He'll do!"

Pall Mall Gazette.]

The Man in Possession.

THE NEW IRISH PARTY.

Lepracaun.] [Dublin.

Mr. O'Brien on the Warpath.

Westminster Gazette.]

The Three B's.

The Government majority is made up of Liberals, Labour Members, and Nationalists. The Opposition consists of Beresford, Balfour, and Blatchford.

Westminster Gazette.]

The Irish Birds (Redmond and O'Brien).

Lepracaun.] [Dublin.

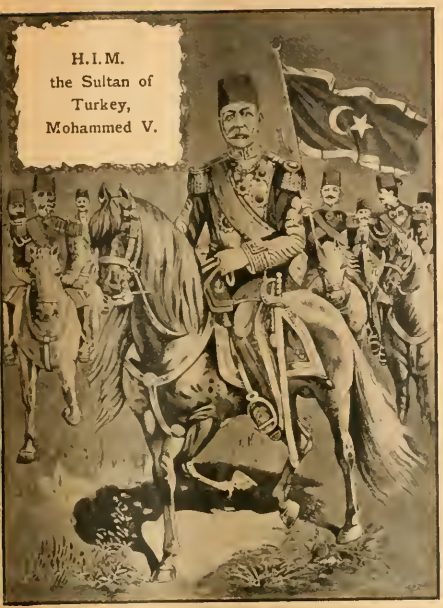
La Silhouette] [Paris.

Other Times Other Manners.

The French cartoonist remarks that old Æsop, the genial La Fontaine, Florian, and other fabulists known throughout the world, have all made cocks and pigeons talk, and never made such a mighty fuss about it.

Minneapolis Journal.]

The Siamese Twins, To Date.



Cairo Punch.]

International Syndicate.] [Baltimore.

The Trouble in America.

PRIVATE CITIZEN: "I've got to get at this big fellow, or he'll get at me; and I want your help."

National Review.] [Shanghai.

Neutralising the Chinese Railways!

"Let him choose for himself."

Ulk.] [Berlin.

The Absent Chancellor.

"Why is Bethmann-Hollweg scarcely ever seen in the Reichstag?"

"Because he's never done kowtowing to the Lords."

Pasquino.] [Turin.

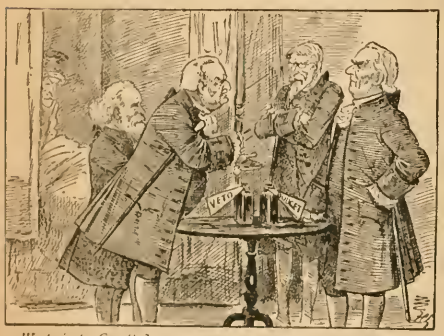
The Austro-Russian Entente.

BALKAN STATES: "If *they* have made friends, what will become of us?"

Pasquino.] [Turin.

Curious Italian View of Mr. Lloyd George.

He is supposed to be muzzling the Lords.



Westminster Gazette.]

When Doctors Disagree Patients Don't Get Their Medicine.

THE PATIENT: "As they don't seem to agree about the physic I think I'll get up and go for a walk."

Ulk.] [Berlin.

High Tariff Wall in France.

THE GERMAN: "My dear neighbour, you are actually building the wall higher than ever between us!"

A VEXED QUESTION IN THE WEST.

Westminster Gazette.]

Tandem or Pair?

THE NEW WHIP (the Master of Elibank): "What will ou drive this morning, Sir?"
MR. ASQUITH: "Veto and Budget."
THE NEW WHIP: "Tandem, Sir?"
MR. ASQUITH: "No, I think I can manage them better as pair—double harness."

A VEXED QUESTION IN THE EAST.

Fischietto.] [Turin.

The Fight for Manchuria.

CHINA: "But where do I come in?"

De Amsterdammer.]

Holland and the Neighbouring Powers.

HOLLAND (with the apple): "You are all equally dear to me. I am unable to make any choice. So neither of you will get the apple."

[*Daily Chronicle.*

Old King Coal.

Il Papagallo.] [Bologna.

TURKISH LADY: "You are carrying in triumph that man who is trying to ruin me and you, too, with his claims to the Bosphorus and dominion over our seas. I shall never allow such claims. Rather than that, I would raise my standard, which is always protected by this clever sailor."

Lepracaun.] [Dublin.

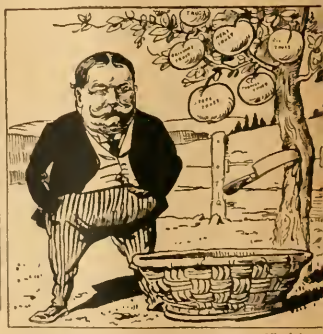
Sanctuary.

TIM HEALY: "I always found this a good place in a fight."

Minneapolis Journal.]

Searching for the cause of the High Cost of Living.

If one very essential cause were a dog, it would have bitten him



Nebelspalter.] [Zurich.

President Taft and the Trusts.

THE PRESIDENT: "We can wait. We'll see that they fall of themselves."

THE BOOK OF THE MONTH.

LIFE OF LORD KELVIN.*

IN the apocryphal book of Enoch it is stated that when the sons of God took to themselves wives of the fair daughters of men, the children of these unions were giants three hundred feet high. Glancing over this record of Lord Kelvin's life and labours one almost feels disposed to credit this scientific giant with a descent from these antediluvians. For William Thomson, from his birth up, was of the giant breed. Not in feet and inches, but in mind. During the whole of his four-score years of active, intellectual life it would be difficult to name any one of his contemporaries who could be called his peer. He stood alone, a marvellous embodiment of intellectual energy, a kind of two-legged Radium, ceaselessly pouring out rays of energy and never seeming to lose force or weight. The reader rises bewildered from Mr. Silvanus Thompson's volumes. He turns to the appendix, and he finds no fewer than fifty pages devoted to a bibliography of Lord Kelvin's writings, a list of seventy distinct patents taken out for the protection of Lord Kelvin's inventions, and seven pages filled with nothing but a catalogue of the honours heaped upon him by governments, monarchs, universities, municipalities, and all manner of learned societies. Surely he was one of the most universally reverenced men of science of our time. All men and all nations did him honour. When at last the physical shell that had so long encased his indomitable spirit was laid to rest by the side of Newton in Westminster Abbey, his funeral was as the burial day of a mighty monarch. These two bulky volumes are merely, as it were, the epitaph on the monumental pile of his lifelong labour.

No one but a scientist and a mathematician can appreciate Lord Kelvin's work or even grasp the meaning of much that his biographer says. "Do not imagine," Lord Kelvin said once, 'that mathematics is hard and crabbed and repulsive to common sense. It is the etherealisation of common sense.' May be so, but it is caviare to the general. The ordinary man does not even understand the meaning of the terms which mathematicians use. What, for instance, would the man in the street make of Lord Kelvin's thirty years' war with Professor Tait on the question of Quaternions? And the phraseology of the physicist is hardly less obscure. Lord Kelvin's lifelong struggle to find a theory which would reduce all physical phenomena to ether and energy can hardly be stated in terms that convey any clear idea to nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand of his contemporaries. I shall not, therefore, attempt in this account of Lord Kelvin's life to summarise the scientific achievements of his long and brilliant career. I shall confine myself rather to endeavouring to reduce into a miniature the full-length portrait of the man which is to be found in Mr. Silvanus Thompson's copious volumes.

I.—BIRTH AND EDUCATION.

William Thomson, said Professor Huxley, except for the trivial and impertinent accident of birth, was a Scotchman. Lord Kelvin made no such claim to belong to the dominating nation. Whenever he spoke on the Unionist platform—and in his later days his Ulster blood drove him out of the Liberal Party when Mr. Gladstone plunged for Home Rule—he proclaimed himself of Irish birth. As an Irishman he claimed to possess the seventh sense—common sense—which he held Irishmen possessed to a greater extent than either English or Scotch. He was born in County Down of parents whose ancestors had been tilling Irish soil ever since the black days of the massacre in 1641, when they first crossed over from Scotland to settle in Ulster. The Scoto-Irish mixture is one of the toughest strands in the human race. The Thomsons of Ballymaclave absorbed for two centuries from Irish soil and Irish air the energy which blazed out so magnificently in Lord Kelvin. He chose his ancestors with discretion. For generation after generation they had borne the reputation of being "religious, moral, patriotic, honest, large, athletic, handsome men." William inherited all these characteristics. His father, who was brought up as a farm labourer, developed in his boyhood some trace of the scientific genius which was to bear such golden fruit in his son. James Thomson, Lord Kelvin's father, when only a lad of twelve mastered the art of making sundials, and by the light of a fire of shavings worked out successfully the problem of how to make dials for any latitude. He was sent to a private school, where he soon became assistant teacher, and saved enough to pay for his term at Glasgow University, where he did so well as to become Professor of Mathematics, first at Belfast and afterwards at Glasgow University. He married Margaret Gardner, the daughter of a Glasgow merchant who had distinguished himself by volunteering to go out to America to help King George to put down the American rebels! Lord Kelvin was the second son and fourth child of a family of seven. Born in Belfast in 1824, he had the misfortune to lose his mother in 1829, when he was not six years old. His eldest sister was twelve years old, his youngest brother only twelve months. The father three years later migrated with his bairns to Glasgow, where he was appointed Professor of Mathematics. He personally educated his boys, teaching them Latin and the use of the globes. He was a good teacher, a most conscientious father, whose letters to his son impress the reader

* "Life of William Thomson, Baron Kelvin of Largs." By Silvanus P. Thompson. Two vols. Macmillan and Co. Illustrated. Pp. 1,300. 30s. net.

with a sense of a brooding, parental, thoughtful care that is almost as much maternal as paternal.

Both William and his elder brother were infant prodigies. The future Lord Kelvin was entered as a student at Glasgow when only ten years and three months old. In his first year he carried off two prizes in the Humanity Class before he was eleven. The two brothers went on year after year mopping up prizes for Greek, Natural History, Mathematics, Logic, Natural Philosophy, and Astronomy. William left the University in 1841, after completing his fifteenth year, and having spent six years at the University. He was examined and approved for his B.A. degree. But he purposely abstained from applying for the formal conferment of the degree in order that he might not be prejudiced in entering as an undergraduate at Cambridge. Lord Kelvin in after life thus expressed his ideas of what a boy of twelve should have learned. He said :—

A boy should have learned by the age of twelve to write his own language with accuracy and some elegance ; he should have a ready knowledge of French, should be able to translate Latin and easy Greek authors, and should have some acquaintance with German. Having learned thus the meaning of words, the boy should study logic.

Poor little kiddy ! Lord Kelvin's twelve-year-old would have been a good room-mate for Macaulay's schoolboy.

It was when he was only fourteen that William came under the inspiring influence of Professor Nichol, who held the Chair of Astronomy, but who in 1839 took the course of Natural Philosophy. That year, Lord Kelvin said in after life, was "a white era, an era of brightness in my memory." The enthusiasm of Nichol kindled the enthusiasm of Thomson, and in 1839 and 1840 the destiny of the lad was fixed. The book that most influenced him was Fourier's "Analytical Theory of Heat," for the splendour and poetry of which he conceived the greatest admiration.

The Thomson family were taken abroad to Paris and to Germany to pick up conversational knowledge of French and German, a project which came to nothing so far as William's acquisition of German was concerned, for he was so absorbed in Fourier that he neglected the study of German. When only seventeen he made his first contribution to the *Cambridge Mathematical Journal*, signing a paper in defence of Fourier by the initials "P.Q.R."

II.—AT CAMBRIDGE.

Before leaving Glasgow he met a cousin of Faraday's, who inoculated him with the Faraday fire. When he arrived at Cambridge he was better educated than many graduates who were leaving it. He was aflame with enthusiasm for Fourier, and devoted to Faraday, while his father was constantly urging him to diligent study of mathematics. He went to Peterhouse. Five days after he had settled himself in his rooms the word went round Cambridge that the slender, sandy-haired lad from Glasgow would some day be Senior Wrangler. At Cambridge he read, walked, boated, danced occasionally, and still more occasionally rode a horse. Summer and winter he bathed in the early morning in the Cam, and in the afternoon took relaxation in rowing. The Scotch lad does not seem to have been pinched for money, although he was sufficiently economical to refuse to pay 2s. 6d. a term to the College barber, "considering that hitherto his hair-dressing has cost him only 2d. the half-year." Barbers evidently did not make fortunes in Glasgow in those days. It is characteristic of the future Lord Kelvin that when he went into King's College chapel he was chiefly interested in the roof as a problem in the equilibrium of structures, just as in after life, when he saw Niagara, he thought chiefly of the enormous number of foot-tons of energy that ran to waste in the waterfall. He was short-sighted had to wear glasses, and found letter-writing nearly as fatiguing as mathematics. He bought a rowing-boat built of oak as good as new for seven pounds, its original price having been £24. A college chum who hired his boat had to pay £12 for the first year and £6 per annum afterwards. So the soul of the economical Scot rejoiced within him, and he was somewhat taken aback to find that his father hardly saw the bargain about the boat in the same light.

The following are the figures of William Thomson's expenditure at Cambridge :—

Oct., 1841, to Sept. 1842...	...	£240 11 7
Sept., 1842, to Nov., 1843	...	238 15 0
Nov., 1843, to Oct., 1844	...	295 0 0
		£774 6 7

His father ever kept a watchful eye over his son, and when a colleague, Professor Meickleham, who held the Natural Philosophy Chair at Glasgow, seemed likely to die, Thomson, senior, coveted the post for his son, by whom it was ultimately accepted. "In your walk in life," wrote the canny old Scot, "you must take care not only to do what is right, but to take equal care always to appear to do so."

William Thomson appears to have led a very exemplary life at Cambridge. Every day, wet or fine, he went out with four companions in five rowing-boats, known as "The Fleet," upon the river. He was on one occasion nearly swept out of his course by the passion for rowing. It was in the last term of his second year that he rowed in the Peterhouse boat. The great question was whether Peterhouse or Caius would "bump." Thomson says :—

Caius never got near the Peterhouse boat. During those three weeks of the races nothing occurring on the whole earth seemed of the slightest importance, we could talk and think of nothing else. It was three weeks clean cut out of my time for working at Cambridge, so I determined to do no more rowing.

Nevertheless, six months afterwards he rowed and won the Silver Sculls, given by Colquhoun, a Scotchman of Loch Lomondside. The other favourite recreation of Thomson at Cambridge and all his life afterwards was music. He was one of the founders of the Cambridge University Musical Society. He

played the French horn, and in 1844 became the president of the society. He described Weber, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn as "our Gods"; he almost equally admired Mozart, Haydn, and Schubert.

Contrary to universal expectation, Thomson did not become Senior Wrangler. He came in second, being beaten by Parkinson, who, however, he easily defeated immediately afterwards in the Smith prize examination. Dr. Whewell wrote, "Thomson is much the greatest mathematical genius; the Senior Wrangler was better drilled." Thomson's own explanation of his defeat was his bad generalship. "I spent nearly all my time on one particular problem that interested me, about a spinning top being let fall on to a rigid plane—a very simple problem if I had tackled it in the right way. But I got involved and lost time on it, and there was no time left for the other questions. I could have walked over the paper."

III.—PROFESSOR AT GLASGOW.

William Thomson was twenty-one when he left Cambridge and studied for a time in Paris. Then he went back to Cambridge, where he got a Foundation Fellowship worth £200 a year. His training in physical thought was fructifying fast. If he had left Cambridge an accomplished mathematician he returned an enthusiastic physicist, devoting the next five years of his life to applying mathematical analyses to Physics, and especially to Electricity. In 1846 he was unanimously elected, although only twenty-two years of age, to the Chair of Natural Philosophy at Glasgow, vacated by the death of Dr. Meikleham. "It is plain from the testimonials," said one professor, "that William Thomson is, or is shortly to be, a second Newton." The testimonials were not far out.

Behold, then, the twenty-two-year-old Thomson seated in the professor's chair. He began by reading a lecture on the scope and method of physical science from a manuscript which did duty for fifty years. It is interesting to know that on the first delivery it did not fill the allotted hour, and the lecturer was greatly downhearted at its conclusion. As a professor, the fair-haired, stern, alert, enthusiastic lad was an inspiration to the few who could understand him; but to the many, to whom his abstruse teaching was unintelligible, he was of little service. It is impossible not to sympathise with the unfortunate student on Bench 10 who explained, "I listened to the lectures on the pendulum for a month, and all that I know about the pendulum yet is that it wags."

In those days there was absolutely no provision of any kind for experimental investigation. Thomson replaced the worm-eaten mahogany instruments, which were one hundred years old, by modern apparatus; but his laboratory was little better than a cellar, and the equipment was wretched in the extreme. When William Thomson was twenty-five he lost his father, who was carried off in the cholera epidemic, which raged like a pestilence through the insanitary slums in which the College stood. "God has willed it for the best, and has tried us with a heavy affliction."

William continued to live in his father's house, 2, The College, his aunt keeping house for him, for three years. In 1852 he married his cousin, Margaret Crum, a lady who appears to have been the happy possessor of all the qualities to be desired in a wife save the capacity of motherhood and the gift of good health. The honeymoon started well, but the very next year, while they were touring in Sicily, Mrs. Thomson overtaxed her strength, and she remained more or less of a chronic invalid till her death seventeen years later. She was a poet, and according to Dr. John Brown, "one of the finest creatures I ever knew—sincere and bright and very keen-minded, and with a true insight into the real worth of things and thoughts." All hope of her recovery was given up a year before she died. Before that she had for years dodged death by wintering in Mentone and Torquay. But in 1870 he was left desolate. Nor did he find consolation till four years afterwards, when he found and married his second wife, Frances Anna Blandy, of Madeira. She was also childless, but she was not an invalid, and survived him. It is impossible to estimate the drain upon Thomson's physical energies that was caused by his first wife's ill-health. In August, 1854, he wrote to his sister:—

> Margaret has not advanced at all in walking power. I always carry her up and down stairs, and often from one room to another. By avoiding all exertion she keeps tolerably free from pain. I take her a drive nearly every day, and sometimes twice in a little pony carriage.

In the following year he had to take her to Creuznach, where, "as she is not allowed to ride or to walk more than a few minutes every day, I take her out in a Bath chair." No wonder the wife's health "interrupted his laboratory work."

It was at Creuznach where he first met Helmholtz, who was amazed to find "one of the first mathematical physicists of Europe, a very juvenile and exceedingly fair youth, who looked quite girlish." But despite his juvenility of appearance, Helmholtz says of him, "He far exceeds all the great men of science with whom I have made personal acquaintance in intelligence, with lucidity and mobility of thoughts, so that I felt quite wooden beside him sometimes."

IV.—HIS PRACTICAL WORK.

All these years Thomson was working, and investigating, and lecturing, and writing. At his lecture at the Royal Institution in 1856 he finished by the memorable declaration:—

> A tree contains more mystery of creature power than the sun from which all its mechanical energy is borrowed. An earth without life, a sun and countless stars contain less wonder than that grain of mignonette.

It was not until 1857, when he was thirty-three

years of age, that Thomson began to make practical application of his mathematical theories. In that year the Atlantic cable was laid down. Thomson was one of the directors of the company. Whitehouse, the electrician, refused to go on the ship. Thomson went in his stead without any salary. The first attempt failed, but Thomson invented the mirror galvanometer, which serves not only as a speaking instrument for receiving signals, but as an absolutely invaluable appliance both at sea and in the laboratory for the most delicate operations of electric testing. The happy idea of using the mirror on the objective plane arose from noticing casually the reflection of light from the eyeglass which he habitually wore hung round his neck with a ribbon.

In the following year another attempt was made which was temporarily successful after many mischances. Thomson is described by an eye-witness as being, at such times of danger to the cable, in a fearful state of excitement :—

His hand shook so much that he could hardly adjust his eyeglass. The veins on his forehead were swollen. His face was deadly pale. In a perfect fever of nervous excitement, shaking like an aspen leaf, yet in mind clear and collected, he waited for the result of the tests.

Sir Charles Bright, describing Thomson on board the cable-ship, says :—

As for the Professor, he was a thorough good comrade all round, and would have taken his turn at the wheel of the paying-out brake if others had broken down. He was also a good partner at whist when work was not on, though sometimes, when momentarily immersed in cogebundity of cogitation by scientific abstraction, he would look up from his cards and ask, "Wha played what?"

From this point onward Professor Thomson was drawn more and more into the practical service of the everyday work of mankind. From devising water-taps to advising the construction of the *Dreadnought* there was nothing he was not called upon to do. He, the best trained scientific mind, the master mathematician of the age, was at everyone's beck and call. Where science needed instruments to enable her to do her work, whether it was an improved compass or a new sounding machine, whether it was the fixing of load lines or an inquiry into the loss of the *Captain*, Professor Thomson was always called in as the most accessible, lucid, scientific brain in Britain.

Mr. Silvanus Thompson reminds us that as recently as 1859 Grove, Tyndall, Smee, Bidder, and Robert Stephenson one and all condemned the idea of electric motive power as impractical and impossible commercially. Even Thomson did not then realise the potentiality latent in the dynamo. He was also at a much later date entirely sceptical as to the practicability of the aëroplane—such are the limitations even of the greatest minds.

In 1860, Professor Thomson joined the Volunteers. He was thirty-six years old when he became Captain of the 2nd Company of the 1st Lanarkshire. Unfortunately, when curling on December 29th, 1860, the board on which he was standing swung round with him, and he was thrown with great violence on the ice. His left leg was fractured at the neck of the thigh-bone. He suffered agonies, was laid up for weeks, and limped till the end of his life.

His relationship with Joule, Faraday, Stokes, Helmholtz was most friendly. Never once does Thomson ever seem to desire any credit for himself; repeatedly he persists in according credit to others. Helmholtz was devoted to him, as indeed were most of his friends.

"I always look," said Helmholtz, "on a journey to England as a kind of intellectual cure, which shakes me out of the comfortable indolence of dear old Germany into more active life."

That was written in 1863, just before dear old Germany was roughly shaken out of her comfortable life by the Bismarckian wars. Thomson, indeed, lived a life strenuous enough even for a latter-day German :—

He devoted himself body, mind, and soul to his work, incessant from day to day, from year to year. From early morning—for before rising he would begin to work at the notes in his green book—to late evening he was immersed in his avocations. Time was his enemy, with whom he seemed to wage a continual warfare, consulting his watch at intervals sometimes with great perturbation.

In 1867 he and Tait produced the first volume of the "Treatise of Natural Philosophy," an epoch-making treatise which, like many other works of the first class, brought a very inadequate remuneration to its authors. In March, 1869, the book was so much in debt to the Press in the actual outlay that there was no balance payable to the authors. In January, 1870, after accounts had been presented, Tait wrote to Thomson: "We do look like a couple of sold gorillas." When the *Great Eastern* finally succeeded in laying the Atlantic cable Professor Thomson was in command. Everything went well, and has gone well ever since. The delicacy of Thomson's galvanometer was subjected to most crucial tests. The two cables were joined up into a single circuit of 3,700 miles, through which intelligible signals were transmitted using only the power of a Liliputian volt arc cell, consisting of a lady's silver thimble containing a few drops of acid into which was dipped a strip of zinc. Messages were sent across the Atlantic when the only battery was a gun cap containing one drop of acidulated water and a minute anode of zinc.

I have not space to follow Professor Thomson through the long series of controversies and discoveries in which he was engaged. His discovery about the significance of vortex atoms, his theories as to the age of the world, his invention of the siphon recorder, and many other matters of deep interest and of immense importance to the world: for all these things the reader must turn to the book itself, which gives copious and enthusiastic narratives of all that Lord Kelvin did and said.

V.—THE MAN AND HIS OUTLOOK.

What impresses even the most casual reader is the all-devouring activity of Lord Kelvin. He was nearly blind in one eye, he was lame on one leg, he suffered frequently from a neuralgia which tormented him much in later years; but he never flinched, he never recoiled from any duty laid upon him. When he was eighty years old and over he was more punctual in his attendance in the House of Lords than three-fourths of the younger Peers. The secret of this inexhaustible physical vitality seems to have lain in the fact that he could always sleep, and sleep soundly, at any time of the day or the night. Sleep may be called the Brother of Death, but if so there is nothing like being on good terms with Brother Sleep in order to keep Brother Death at a distance. Lord Kelvin also practised a marvellous economy of time. Born with a grudge against Time because there were only twenty-four hours instead of thirty in the day, he filled up every spare moment with work. Add to this that he lived much in the open air, was of an optimistic temperament, and never suffered actual privation, and you have all the explanations that can be given as to how the Irish-Scot physique bore so well the wear and tear of his long life. He was a humble man who did not take offence. He achieved great things, but did not brag about them, and was always reaching forward after still greater things which evaded his grasp.

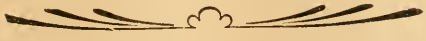
The religious views of such a master of science were simple and conventional. He oscillated between his native Presbyterian faith and that of evangelical Anglicanism. He disliked the High Church doctrine, and once said that the only sense in which he could regard it as High was the same as that in which game is said to be "high" when it is decomposing. He once declared that "if religion means strenuousness in doing right and trying to do right, who has earned the title of a religious man better than Huxley?" He looked upon the distinctions between Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Quakers, and Unitarians with supreme indifference. He always began his lectures by reading the Third Collect for grace; he usually attended church on Sunday morning, and as late as 1888 conducted a Bible-reading at his sister's house. He was equally opposed to secular and sectarian education. But his testimony was chiefly notable as to his belief in Creative Power and an overruling Providence. He maintained that our power of discussing and speculating about Atheism and Materialism was enough to disprove them.

He repeatedly asserted that "mathematics and dynamics fail us when we are confronted with the problem of the origin of life on the earth. We must pause face to face with the mystery and miracle of the creation of living creatures." On one memorable occasion in 1903, he said:—

> Science positively affirms creative power. Science makes everyone feel a miracle in himself. We are absolutely forced by science to admit and believe with absolute confidence in a Directive power, in an influence other than physical, dynamical, or electrical forces. Do not be afraid of being freethinkers. If you think strongly enough you will be forced by science to the belief in God, which is the foundation of all religion. You will find science not antagonistic but helpful to religion.

Again he said: "No artificial process whatever can make living matter out of dead, and I believe that the more thoroughly science is studied the further does it take us from anything comparable to Atheism." It is much to be regretted that Lord Kelvin should have paid little or no attention to the problems of psychical research. Spiritualism was to him merely a wretched superstition. "There is no seventh sense of a mystic kind." Clairvoyance and the like were to him chiefly due to bad observation and imposture; and he even ventured so far as to say there is no such thing as animal magnetism or any other influence by which a table can be moved without distinct mechanical action upon it. These dogmatic assertions may be charitably dismissed as due to bad observation. Lord Kelvin simply never gave his mind to the subject. Hence this nonsense denying facts which are now quite beyond dispute.

Even Homer must nod sometimes, and Lord Kelvin may be excused such an occasional lapse from the scientific spirit, and that the more readily because he deprived himself thereby of consolation of which more than once he stood in sore need.



LEADING ARTICLES IN THE REVIEWS

REFLECTIONS ON THE ELECTIONS.

THE GENERAL ELECTION AS PLÉBISCITE.

THE *Liberal Magazine* for February publishes an analysis of how the votes were cast at the General Election :—

ENGLAND—	Liberal and Labour.	Unionist.	Majority.
London	272,786	311,570	U 38,784
Boroughs	82 ,128	750,383	L 64,065
Counties	1,493,955	1,468,229	L 25,726
Total England	2,58),889	2,538,882	I 51,007
WALES	206,288	97,126	L 10),162
SCOTLAND ... ...'	362,226	265,861	L 126,365
Total Great Britain ...	3,188,403	2,901,869	L 286,534
IRELAND...	350,000	150,000	N 200,000
Total for UNITED KINGDOM	3,538,403	3,051,86)	L 486,534

[Majorities at previous General Elections :—18 , L 200,000 ; 1895, U 104,000 ; 1900, U 123,000 ; 1906, L 836,418.]

Provisional figures are used for the three seats not filled at the time of writing.

VOTE MAJORITIES.

ENGLAND—	1895.	1900.	1906.	1910.
London	U 82,945	U 56,731	L 32,526	U 38,784
Boroughs	U 79,303	U 110,301	L 175,181	L 64,065
Counties	U 189,355	U 157,541	L 222,654	L 25,726
Total England ...	U 351,603	U 364,573	L 430,411	L 51,007
WALES	L 30,355	L 45,570	L 74,403	L 10),162
SCOTLAND	L 10,616	U 3,971	L 131,604	L 126,365
Total Great Britain	U 310,632	U 322,574	L 636,418	L 286,534
Majority in Seats .	U 213	U 195	L 289	L 63

To complete this, some figures as to the plural voter may be added. In 69 of the 121 English County Divisions carried by the Conservatives the ownership vote exceeded the majorities by which the seats were won. 156,371 ownership votes, of which probably not more than one-fifth were Liberal, were cast in constituencies whose total Conservative majority was only 79,890. If one man one vote had been the rule the Liberal majority would have more than doubled. The Liberal and Labour majority in English and Welsh constituencies, if the plural votes were deducted, is estimated at 440,000. The Unionists hold 45 English boroughs averaging 6,000 electors, the Liberals hold 17 English boroughs averaging 19,600 electors.

A GREAT AND FREE COUNTRY.

In the *Revue des Deux Mondes* of February 1st the Comte d'Haussonville records his impressions of the Electoral Campaign in England. His article, which is entitled "Ten Days in England during the Election," refers more particularly to the period immediately preceding the Election, namely, January 6th to 16th. Among the speeches which he heard were those of Mr. Asquith at Bath, Lord Curzon at Brighton, the Duke of Norfolk at Brixton, Mr. Winston Churchill at Birmingham, and others, and in his notes he endeavours to put before his French readers the chief points in the speeches, the issues before the country, etc. In conclusion, he says England is not on the eve of a political revolution, much less a social revolution. The agitation is only on the surface, and England will remain what she has been for a century —the model of great and free countries.

A significant admission is made by the Editor of the *Socialist Review* :—

Had it been possible at this election for the Labour Party to frankly make common cause with the Liberal Party in putting forward their respective candidates, as was done by the electors when voting in those constituencies where there was no third candidate, they could together, by the enthusiasm and certainty of victory, which would have been aroused, have swept the country.

A LESSON FROM WILTSHIRE.

Colonel D. C. Pedder, writing in the *Contemporary Review* on Intensive Electioneering, says that Liberals in good social position will have to quarrel with their Tory friends if they persist in punishing the humble labourer who votes for the Liberals :—

In the General Election of 1906 Wiltshire returned five Liberal members to Parliament ; in that just ended, one. The total Liberal majority in 1906 was 4,433. In 1910 there was a Tory majority of 1,813. It is the object of the present writer to show that, as long as actual electoral conditions are maintained, the Liberal Party can have little hope of again returning a majority of members either in Wiltshire or in any other southern county.

In the counties their recent defeat has been due to organisation, complete and far-reaching enough to take advantage of every chink in the law through which money and fear and solicitation, backed by religion and recommended by liquor, could be brought to bear upon poor men unable to escape and far too feeble to offer effectual resistance. The result of the Wiltshire elections shows convincingly that money, position and power can be used, and have been used, to construct an engine of compulsion which is practically irresistible. There is no fighting the battle of the suffering poor against the rich who use their wealth to hold them in thrall without giving deadly offence to the rich. It offence, and offence as durable as the determination of the rich to keep their foot upon the neck of the poor, is *not* given, the battle has not been *seriously* fought. The poor will *not* give their confidence to those who do not share their social sufferings.

ON ELECTION POSTERS.

The *Organiser* contains a criticism from the standpoint of the advertising man on the recent strenuous advertising by various political parties. Some are admitted to be strong and reasonable, but on the other hand—

a large proportion have descended to depths of vindictiveness, prejudice, untruthfulness, and insincerity that must have nauseated every Britisher who possesses self-respect and a belief in his country. I have seen some posters put out by various Leagues which consist of letterpress written in a claptrap style that would get the meanest advertisement-writer on the staff of the most blatant advertisement swindler his week's notice on the spot. If this is the kind of twaddle which appeals to the average elector, then our suffrage is far too extended. The men who could put out such stuff and the men who are attracted by it are not persons whose opinion is worth consideration on any subject under the sun, but I do not believe that it pays any party to degrade itself to the extent that we have seen.

WHAT SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT DO?

Quot homines tot sententiæ. Everyone has his own nostrum in the present crisis.

REFORM THE HOUSE OF LORDS,—

In the *Contemporary Review* for March Mr. E. T. Cook, writing on "The Elections—and After," says :—

The conclusion seems to be that, either now or later, the Liberal Party should adopt a definite policy with regard to a Reformed Second Chamber. There is a serious strategic danger ahead of them, if they do not. The Tories, in that case, and perhaps in any case, would come forward with some plausible (though ineffectual) scheme of Reform, and might succeed in confusing the issue as if it were between the virtual abolition of the Second Chamber safeguard on the one hand, and a real scheme of reform on the other. In that case, I do not think any of us can feel sure that public opinion would not prefer the more moderate alternative. Therefore, if another election has to be fought on the House of Lords, the scheme as finally submitted to the country by the Liberal Party should include proposals for a Second Chamber more amenable to public opinion, more fitted for the duties of revision and reconsideration, and more conformable to the spirit of democracy than can ever be the case with a Chamber based on the hereditary principle.

—WITH THE AID OF ALL PARTIES.

In the *Fortnightly Review* Mr. Sydney Brooks, writing upon Liberalism and the Crisis, sums up the lessons of the Election, and says :—

They must recognise that the question of the composition of the Upper Chamber and the question of its Constitutional powers are inseparable and cannot be treated apart. Above all they must remember that any readjustment of the relations between the two Houses that is to endure must be the combined work of all parties, and cannot represent the interests and prejudices of merely one of them.

Mr. Brooks thinks that there is no real movement of opinion outside the lobbies at Westminster for cutting down the legislative prerogative of the House of Lords, apart from the single question of finance, but he does detect a movement of opinion in favour of reforming its composition.

TARIFF REFORM OPTIMISM.

Mr. Edward Dicey, writing in the February *Empire Review* on the General Election (when incomplete) and foreign opinion, states that the main issue of the campaign has not been the House of Lords, but Tariff Reform, and he anticipates "the defeat if not the utter rout of the Free Traders." He says that on the whole foreign nations have taken the Election in excellent part. They jointly acknowledge that a Protective policy has proved to their own advantage.

THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK: FROM OUR HELPERS.

THE reports received from my Helpers in response to my last month's service leave no doubt on my mind as to the widespread dismay that has been occasioned in the Liberal ranks by the disappointment of the almost universal expectation that Mr. Asquith had received assurances from the King that he would crush the resistance of the Peers. The mortification resulting from the discovery of the facts is very intense, and it would be distinctly unfortunate for the Government to make an appeal to the country until the present depression has been allowed time to subside.

There is a general agreement among my correspondents that this bitterness is most intense in the North, where the Election was largely fought upon the question of Peers *versus* People. In the South the Constitutional issue was largely obscured by the persistent advocacy of Tariff Reform as the specific guaranteed by the Tory Party to secure work for all at higher wages and with cheaper food. The fact that Mr. Balfour has, since the Election, repudiated these guarantees will not prevent his candidates repeating the same things at the next appeal to the country.

Several correspondents speak earnestly as to the need for more systematic and up-to-date methods of combating the fallacies of the Tariff Reformers. One calls urgent attention to the importance of utilising the cinematograph for the purpose of illustrating political discourses. In this matter both the Gladstone and the Free Trade Leagues might take a hint.

WHY THE IRISH HATE THE BUDGET.

BY MR. T. M. HEALY, M.P.

IN the *National Review* Mr. Healy sets forth in his own mordant fashion the objections of Ireland to the Budget. He says :—

The protest of Ireland against the Budget is no exudation of Party strife. It arises not only from poverty but from an insistence on international compacts. The Budget devised a tax which, without touching any Englishmen rich or poor, smote Ireland to the bone. This masterpiece was the tax on tenant-right.

This proposal is the real mainspring of Irish hatred for the Budget.

In serried file there parades before our peasants' eyes an ogre army, brigaded only for the work of brigandage. It musters up its stamp duties, its increment duties, its death duties, and all the other land taxes, to attack and reduce the little store which was believed to be fortified against all risk of spoliation.

A farmer who, in sixty-nine years, will only have repaid the money his landlord received, must forthwith pay duty, in case of a sale or death, on the full amount of the loan—as if the year 1910 were the year 1979.

To give an illustration : If a tenant rents a holding which he can sell for £300, the Budget makes him pay a doubled duty on £300. But if the same holding has been bought out for another £300, the State, which allows sixty-nine years for repayment, will, if the tenant dies, exact from his widow and orphans a doubled duty on £600, viz., £300 on the tenant-right, and £300 on the money borrowed to pay off the landlord.

On the sale of a tenancy, increment duty as well as a doubled stamp duty on estimated value comes into force :—

The traditional arrangement of lowly wedlock in Ireland is that the farmer's son gets an assignment of the land at his marriage, with life provision for the parents ; the bride's dowry then goes to portion the daughters, or pay the younger son's passage to America. Heretofore a ten-shilling stamp validated the deed of marriage articles, but if the Budget passes, duty will be levied on the full capital value of the farm at future transfers. If the holding has been purchased from the landlord, then duty on the full capital borrowed from the Government will be added. The Budget, therefore, is an attack on the only possession of poor people, in a poor country, who are engaged in the most precarious of industries—agriculture.

SHAKESPEARE A POET AMONG MEN.

PROFESSOR C. W. WALLACE'S DISCOVERIES.

To *Harper's Magazine* Dr. Charles William Wallace, Associate Professor of English in Nebraska University, contributes one of the most read and discussed articles of the month, upon the new discoveries of Shakespearean documents made by him in the English Record Office. Since 1901 Professor Wallace has given himself up to a systematic search for new data concerning Shakespeare and his contemporaries, and since 1904 he and his wife have been labouring in the Public Record Office. After going through documents innumerable, they have at last discovered a suit in the Court of Requests in which "William Shakespeare, of Stratford-upon-Avon, in the county of Warwick, Gentleman," is a witness The date of the case was May and June, 1612. The suit, which is a domestic quarrel of little interest in itself, throws light on Shakespeare's everyday, but not upon his dramatic, life; and it is evident that so great an authority as Mr. Sidney Lee, writing on the article in the *Illustrated London News* (February 28th), thinks that Dr. Wallace draws too many inferences from his discovery, and builds upon it conjectures which are perhaps pleasing, but certainly somewhat fanciful. "Far better leave the facts to speak for themselves" is an opinion of Mr. Lee's, with which most people will agree.

Briefly, the results of the discovery are the adding one to the five known autograph signatures of Shakespeare; the ascertaining of the facts that Shakespeare lodged, in 1604, and perhaps in other years, in a house in Silver Street, near Wood Street, Cheapside, and that he was friendly with certain City merchants of the Huguenot community—which was not formerly known.

SHAKESPEARE AS A MATCHMAKER.

Here the story of Shakespeare's life in London is revealed, and the part he played in a love-story is told in his own deposition. It seems that Shakespeare took up his abode in the family of a man named Mountjoy, a Huguenot wigmaker. In 1612 Mountjoy was brought into court as defendant by his son-in-law, Stephen Bellott, and Shakespeare was called as a witness. In the hearing of the case against Mountjoy the history of the preceding ten or twelve years is recounted.

In 1598 Stephen Bellott entered Mountjoy's house as an apprentice. The youth's parents were to provide him with clothing, and Mountjoy was to do the rest. The master liked his apprentice and was satisfied with his work. Young Stephen also liked his work, and he found an added zest to his labour in the presence of Mary, the daughter of the house, who worked side by side with him at the same trade. At the end of six years both were perfect in their art, but the father declared that it was he and not Stephen who had made his daughter perfect. Be that as it may, Mary liked Stephen well and spoke of it to her parents.

Stephen now desired to go to Spain but needed additional funds, and Mountjoy provided him with six pounds, which, however, Stephen afterwards declared he did not do. After a short time in Spain Stephen returned to Mountjoy's house, but had not the courage to put his vision into words. Mary's mother understood the difficulty, and she ventured to ask Shakespeare, who was then living in the house, to act as intermediary. She told him that if he could bring the young man to make a proposal of marriage a dower of fifty pounds would be settled upon them. Moved by the simple impulse of humanity, Shakespeare performed the wished-for service. All details were satisfactorily arranged, and the marriage duly took place at St. Olave's, Silver Street, in 1604.

SHAKESPEARE AS A WITNESS.

Here Shakespeare's part should have ended, but unfortunately in seven years things had so shaped themselves that he was summoned to appear in court to explain his share in the proceedings. This is the deposition, which is given in full in the article. It is a document of some length, and it bears Shakespeare's own signature.

The cause of the action was as follows. In 1606 Mrs. Mountjoy died, and the relations between son-in-law and father-in-law became strained, until eventually the former entered a suit against the latter, practically for breach of the contract made on his daughter's marriage. Stephen Bellott alleged that Mary's dowry was still unpaid, and that the promised "household stuff" received was old and worthless.

In the deposition signed by Shakespeare, dated May 11th, 1612, he is described as "of the Age of Xlviij yeares or thereaboutes": and there seems not the slightest question as to his identity. He was the third witness examined. In style his evidence reads much like that of the other witnesses, but then, of course, it passed through the compressing hand of the lawyer's clerk. Shakespeare deposed and said that he knew the plaintiff when he was servant with the defendant, and that "duringe the tyme of his the complainantes service w^th^ the said defendant he the said Complainant to this deponentes knowledge did well and honestly behaue himself," and was "a very good and industrious servant," "a very honest fellow." He remembered the marriage-portion, but not the amount. He admitted that he did "moue and perswade" the complainant into his marriage, but as to the "Jmplementes and necessaries of household stuffe," he knew nothing. Professor Wallace remarks that it is evident that Bellott intended Shakespeare to be his "star witness." The other witnesses remember the amount of the dowry promised, and the idea suggests itself: did Shakespeare really forget it? Eventually the dispute, which, as will be seen, is a purely family matter, was referred to the French Church of London.

Professor Wallace then considers the handwriting of Shakespeare, and he endeavours to locate the

house in which Shakespeare lived with the Mountjoys in London. He says we have only to read "Henry V." to understand why he chose the family of a foreigner. We can see him learning the French language in the midst of this family, exchanging lessons with various members, who serve as prototypes of Katherine and Henry.

DR. WALLACE'S INFERENCES.

Mr. Sidney Lee remarks that Dr. Wallace, in claiming that these newly-discovered documents represent Shakespeare as a man among men for the first time, underrates the significance of certain other documents long accessible to the public. He also questions, and it would certainly seem rightly, the inference that Shakespeare lodged with the Mountjoys from 1598 to 1604—*i.e.*, during the whole of Bellott's apprenticeship. He does not think Shakespeare's testimony to Bellott's character warrants that assumption. Dr. Wallace infers also that in "Henry V." the herald, Mountjoy, was so called because of Mountjoy. Much more likely the name was taken from Holinshed, thinks Mr. Lee. George Wilkins, identified by Dr. Wallace as the dramatic author said to have helped to write "Pericles" and "Timon of Athens," cannot be so positively identified. The evidence is not conclusive. Neither is it sufficient to permit of conjecturing that Milton knew Shakespeare by sight—a conclusion based on the knowledge that Milton, born in 1608, lived as a child in Bread Street, Cheapside, near Silver Street.

The whole article, of course, is extremely interesting, though rather too diffuse. Whoever reads it should also read Mr. Sidney Lee's comments.

ARE WE LOSING THE USE OF OUR HANDS?

SIR FREDERICK TREVES SAYS "YES."

SIR FREDERICK TREVES writes in the *Nineteenth Century* for March an extremely interesting article under the above heading. It is the latest, but by no means the last, palinode sung over the gradual subjection of man to the machine. More and more the machine encroaches upon the domain of the human, and Sir Frederick Treves points out with much pathos the extent to which the supremacy of the machine is leading to the decadence of the race. That men have no longer many physical qualities which were developed in the stress and strain of their savage life, he says, is admitted:—

> The man of to-day is inferior, in certain points, to the savage who made the flint implements. It is safe to assume that neolithic man was keener of sight and hearing and fleeter of foot than is the present inhabitant of these islands. He surely, too, possessed greater powers of endurance.

And the process of decadence is still going on. Sir Frederick Treves says the marvellous skill of the hand, which was developed by our ancestors, is being lost by their degenerate descendants. "We are compelled to own that the human being is—in one particular at least—showing signs, not of advancement, but of decay." Sir Frederick points out that typewriters destroy the use of fine caligraphy and sewing machines destroy fine sewing. In his own profession "surgery, as a pure handicraft, reached a point of perfection *prior* to these great changes, to which point it does not now attain."

This is due not so much to the machine as to the introduction of anæsthetics, which allows the surgeon to take time.

The simpler crafts are all disappearing. Spinning and weaving, for instance, have vanished, and with them have vanished the nimble sensitiveness of the hands of thousands of men and women in this country. The knitting machine has destroyed the training for the hand supplied by the knitting needle. Embroidery has gone the same road. By the Heilmann embroidery machine one inartistic person can guide from eighty to one hundred and forty needles, working simultaneously. Lace-making tells the same story; even the shoemaker, who is an artist in his way, has gone the same road:—

> The old craftsman may mourn the loss of his finished skill, but he must be proud to think that even in the making of the uppers of a boot it needs some sixteen machines to do what was done by his two hands. A great press now cuts out the sole piece; heavy rollers take the place of the lapstone. Eyelet holes are fashioned at the rate of one hundred a minute. Buttonholes are made and finished by one machine, while the buttons are fastened on by another. A final engine actually links together with a stitch the two boots of a finished pair. Here, then, as in the daintier art of glove-making, is there an irreparable loss in the use of the hands.

Needle-making used to be a fine handicraft, needing the deftest use of the fingers. Now needles are all made by machines:—

> With regard to pins, I need not say that one machine provides them, complete with heads and points, at the rate of about two hundred a minute. Wire enters the machine at one end and comes out as pins at the other. A still more ingenious apparatus sticks pins in formal rows into the paper. So here, again, there is no need of hands.

So it is with everything else. In carpentry, machines have almost superhuman powers. Paper-making and book-binding, as a means of hand culture, have practically ceased to exist. Wood engraving and line engraving have vanished, and with them have gone thousands of skilled artists. But it is not only in the finer uses of the hands that the machine is doing its devastating work. There are a thousand and one machines which are taking the place of human muscles. Handicraftsmanship is not concerned with the steam navvy or steam shovel, with the trench-excavating machine or the tree-feller, with the rock-drill or the pneumatic riveter. It only need be noted that these machines do not tend to improve the physical development of man.

We are evidently on the down grade, but Sir Frederick Treves says that it may be only for a period, and the decline is temporary. The loss is, none the less, great and regrettable.

IS PARTY GOVERNMENT BREAKING DOWN?

THE VIEWS OF ITS ENEMIES.

THE *Nineteenth Century* devotes space to three articles all full of doleful delineations of the collapse of Parliamentary Government and the death of the party system.

DEMOCRACY DESTRUCTIVE, NOT CONSTRUCTIVE.

The Bishop of Ossory says:—

While the main task of progressive politics consisted in the breaking down of exclusive privilege, in the redressing of grievances, in the achievement of liberty and equality of opportunity, democracy was in its element, doing the work for which it alone was fully competent. No one but the man who feels it can tell where the shoe pinches. Democracy is the principle which allows the man who is hurt to cry out and demand relief. Thus it was that liberty was won.

But now "democracy is following up its splendid and successful assault upon privilege by an attempt—the greatest and most difficult ever made—at constructive statesmanship. The unregulated impulse of the majority is not a safe guide in regard to the questions which are coming into sight."

What is wanted, the Bishop thinks, is a National Committee of Experts to act as referees and advisers in all cases of difficulty.

THE OPINION OF AN OLD CHARTIST.

Mr. W. S. Lilly quotes

a dictum of Lord Beaconsfield's: "Parliamentary government is practically impossible without two great organised parties: without them it would be the most corrupt and contemptible system that could be devised." Well, that is what it has come to. We have not now two great organised parties; we have five parties all compactly organised, though differing in size. One thing at least is clear: that the existing Parliamentary system is hopelessly rotten and cumbers the ground.

He then quotes from a speech made by George Harness, an old Chartist, thirteen years ago:—

Indeed, Parliaments seem to me to have fallen into discredit. In our case we have a mob of seven hundred gentlemen, most of whom are of no earthly use except to vote as they are directed by party leaders. . . . There is a feeling abroad, not only in this country, but in others — France, Germany, Italy, the United States and our Colonies—that Parliaments *are played out*, and that some better legislative machinery will have to be devised. I shall not live to see it.

MR. HAROLD COX'S SIXTH PARTY.

Mr. Harold Cox declares that—

in our own country, with all the dead weight of its conservatism, the two-party system is breaking down because experience proves that it is opposed to the facts of human nature and to the needs of national life. If moderate men are now to form a party for self-defence it will have to be a soldiers' party, and the work will have to be done outside the House of Commons before it is attempted within. Whether it can be done remains to be seen. It is for moderate men of both parties and all classes themselves to decide. A word may be said, however, as to the probable lines upon which such a party, if formed, would move. The most serious obstacle in the way of a fusion of moderate forces lies in the fiscal controversy.

This he would turn by referring the subject to a commission of experts, including both practical business men and theoretical economists, to examine into and report on the whole question. The other articles of his programme are: 1, a strong Second Chamber; and 2, Direct Taxation of all incomes.

SHOULD WORKING MEN PAY INCOME TAX?

MR. HAROLD COX, in the *Nineteenth Century*, pleads strongly in favour of abolishing the sugar tax and levying income tax on all incomes. He says:—

In Prussia the income tax applies to all persons with an income of more than £45 a year. In Saxony the limit is £20. There is no reason to believe that English people, even the poorest, would refuse to accept this system of taxation if frankly put before them and clearly explained.

Mr. W. H. Mallock, in the same magazine, explains with great arrays of statistics how this would work. He takes Pitt's proposals of 1798 as his guide, but exempts all incomes under £115:—

With regard to the incomes now below the line of assessment, or escaping assessment as being jointly and not individually earned, the total number amounting to about 7,400,000, 3,500,000 (or very nearly a half of them) are under £115 a year, or under 44s. a week, which means a maximum of 22s. per earner if earned by two of a family, or less if earned by three. Now, just as Pitt exempted all incomes below £60, when imposing the first formal income-tax in 1798, so the proposals now about to be suggested would, in view of the altered circumstances of the nation, exempt all incomes below £115; and assessment would begin with those, more than 2,300,000 in number.

He submits

two schemes of taxation, beginning with 1d. and with 2d. in the £ respectively on the smaller incomes, and both rising to 24d.; the one would promise to yield a revenue of about £47,000,000 and the other a revenue of about £43,000,000, the computations being based on the figures for 1905. The yield of the tax as actually then levied, according to the scheme which has practically prevailed since 1903 up to now, was not much in excess of £31,000,000. The schemes, therefore, which have been here suggested would yield an extra revenue amounting to £16,000,000 in the one case, and to £12,000,000 in the other.

SIR WILLIAM CROOKES AND SPIRITUALISM.

THE question as to whether Sir William Crookes believes in spiritualism or does not has been much debated. There seems to be a strange difficulty in compelling people to believe that he does actually believe in spirit return. The nearest approach to justification for this scepticism is supplied in a posthumous paper, attributed to Madame Blavatsky, entitled "Mysterious Tribes: Three Months in the Blue Mountains near Madras." In this paper, which is translated from the German version, the following passage occurs:—

Will my spiritualistic friends kindly excuse me if I here correct their statements, as their publications generally give the impression that Crookes is a staunch believer in "Spirits."

This is a mistake. Before I made Crookes' personal acquaintance I did not know what to think about him on account of this talk. Once when in his house, in London, in April 1884, I therefore asked him before many witnesses what was the truth in this matter. Another time I repeated the question when alone with him. In both cases Crookes answered point-blank without the least hesitation, and later on described in print, that he believed as firmly in the phenomena which he had witnessed with his mediums, as he believed in "luminous matter," but that he had long since ceased to believe in the mediation of spirits, though for some time he had been inclined to admit it.

"Who then was Katie King?" I inquired.

"I don't know; probably the double of Miss Florence Cook" (the medium) he answered, adding, there was a hope that the sciences of physiology and biology would ere long be convinced of the existence of such a semi-material double of man.

THE GERMAN PRESS BUREAU.

WHAT IT DOES AND HOW IT WORKS.

A MOST useful, impartial, and well-informed article is that which Mr. G. V. Williams (Eulenspiegel), one of the best American correspondents at Berlin, contributes to the *Contemporary Review*, on the subject of the German Press Bureau.

THE CONTROL OF NEWS.

German newspapers, says Mr. Williams, are too numerous to be profitable. With few exceptions they cannot afford to maintain an expensive foreign telegraphic correspondence. The majority of the papers are—

accordingly almost wholly dependent on the semi-official news agency for the first news at home and abroad. The telegrams of the semi-official agency are submitted to the Government for verification before being published, and hence are subject to delay, or even total suppression. It will therefore be seen that the Foreign Office exercises a very considerable control over the news service, and, in holding what is practically a monopoly, forces the newspapers to apply to the official channel, which is the Press Bureau.

ITS SUPERVISION OF THE FOREIGN PRESS.

The German Government, says Mr. Williams, keeps an extremely watchful eye on the Press both at home and abroad :—

The cuttings forwarded from German diplomatists and consuls abroad are sifted at the Press Bureau, which has also the duty of reading and clipping the German newspapers : on home and foreign topics for the Chancellor and on foreign affairs for the Emperor. The cuttings, pasted on sheets of paper, are laid before the Imperial Chancellor or the Foreign Secretary, and are returned to the Press Bureau with marginal notes denoting the reply to be given to eventual inquiries or information to be supplied to the representatives of the inspired Press.

WHAT IS THE PRESS BUREAU?

The Press Bureau consists of three officials attached to and located in the Foreign Office :—

They must be at their desks during fixed hours twice daily to receive the bost of foreign and native journalists who call at the Wilhelm-Strasse. On the topic of the moment a concise statement is given verbally in approximately the same words to all callers, and questions, which may be freely put, ranging beyond the bounds of this *communiqué*, are answered—or not answered—according to the instructions previously issued to the Press Bureau. Another important function of these hard-worked officials, which must not be forgotten, is the preparation of matter for the *North German Gazette*, which daily places a certain portion of its space at the disposal of the Foreign Office. Many of the inspired telegrams to the *Cologne Gazette*, too, are written in the Press Bureau.

ITS USES TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO THE PRESS.

Mr. Williams says :—

To the Government the Press Bureau is unquestionably a valuable instrument, for it is the keyboard of that great organ, public opinion, of which the newspapers are the stops. It is not German policy to ride too ruthlessly over public opinion at home, but to direct it gently, to guide it in the path desired by the Government, and, above all, to take advantage of passing popular sentiment. To the newspapers, too, the Press Bureau is useful. As I have shown, under existing conditions in Germany it is well-nigh indispensable. *Pace* those tilters at German windmills to whom everything appertaining to the Wilhelm-Strasse reeks of brimstone, I would aver that the Press Bureau is also useful to the foreign Press. The maintenance of a centre where a visit may be paid at definite hours to make inquiries on current questions is a practical arrangement.

ITS DISADVANTAGES.

Mr. Williams sums up as follows :—

Even discarding our non-German glasses, through which the Press Bureau assumes a horrible, inquisitorial aspect, it must be admitted that the institution is reactionary and a hindrance both to the ripening of the German to political maturity and to the advance of the Empire in modern political development. But the Press Bureau is so much part and parcel of public life in Germany that much water will flow under the Spree bridges before it changes its character, still more before it is abolished. Before such a consummation is attained the German Press will have to raise its standing by sheer force of its own efforts. It is well to remember that the German Press Bureau has kept abreast of the times far better than the German Press.

DEFENCES IN THE AIR.

THE ingenuity of military defence, like Browning's passion, has "left the ground to lose itself in the sky." In the *United Service Magazine*, Captain Lewis discusses the defence of important points against airship attack :—

The defence suggested is in the form of captive balloons flown at a height above each spot considered sufficiently alluring to the enemy, with a special form of tube charged with an explosive fitted at frequent intervals to the holding cable with the intention that, on the gas-bag of an airship coming in contact with any of these tubes, the envelope should be punctured and the gas ignited.

This defence could only be used in the daytime if supported by guns designed for aërial work. These would prevent the balloon being molested from above by the enemy's airships. But at night the darkness would perform this *rôle*, and the defence suggested could hold its own without any other assistance.

It seems justifiable to assume that the danger from airship attacks is greatest immediately before the declaration of war. In view of this it is an additional point in favour of the safeguard here suggested that it can be maintained at little expense and increased efficiency during peace, a term nowadays merely denoting a state of undeclared war.

JAPAN AS A FISHING RESORT.

AN interesting illustration of the shrinkage of the planet is afforded in *Badminton* by Major Levita's account of fishing in Japan. He is of opinion that a month's or indeed six weeks' fishing would be well covered by £40. This includes railway fare to Yokohama and back, supplies, and all attendant expenses. There are no licences or taxes to pay, and railway rates are low in Japan. He thinks this is a liberal estimate. He adds :—

If one realises that the sum mentioned would probably not even pay the rent of a less-productive stretch of water at home, I think it must be conceded that salmon-fishing in Japan is not dear. Even the cost of getting to Japan is not excessive ; particularly if either the excellent Nippon Yusen Kaisha line be used (it can be joined from India at Colombo) or the comfortable *second* class of the *train de luxe* on the Trans-Siberia railway.

The Editor appends the following note :—

It is of the Hairy Ainus that Mr. Savage Landor tells an amusing story. The Chief could not understand and much despised the Englishman's propensity for baths. "How dirty you must be!" he said, "you are always washing yourself! Now I am so clean that I have never had to wash myself in all my life!"

"CELEBRITIES I HAVE MET."

By WILLIAM RIDEING.

To the *Cornhill Magazine* Mr. William Rideing contributes what to most people will be the most generally interesting of its March articles, upon "Friends and Acquaintances." The reminiscences deal chiefly with G. H. Boughton, Millais, Du Maurier, Archibald Forbes, and James Payn :—

BOUGHTON AND MILLAIS.

Boughton was especially fond of Lord Leighton and Sir John Millais, as artists and as men. Full of gratitude, he never wearied of praising Millais's service to him, and as an example he told how, when he was worried about the portrait of a little girl he was painting and repainting without getting the effect he strove for, Millais called, and, learning of his distress, scrutinised the picture.

"Hum!" said Millais, "I know that girl, it's her mouth you've got wrong; give me a bit of pencil. This is the way her mouth goes," and as he said the words, he drew on a piece of paper the correct lines. "That's the only thing wrong with it. Put that right, and you won't have any more trouble with it."

"Millais," said Boughton, "was exactly like a doctor in his manner, and most soothing."

ARCHIBALD FORBES'S BEGINNINGS.

The writer knew Archibald Forbes mostly after his second marriage, when his name and fame were made. Forbes told him how he was first sent, a raw youth, to the Franco-German War. His despatches were belated or lost, and he was recalled. He arrived in London with unreported news of great importance, and the account of his experiences in trying to dispose of it will awake memories in the mind of many London journalists. He took the news to his former editor, but was curtly refused. He next took it to the *Times*, but could not get beyond the door :—

Humiliated and disappointed again, he took it to the *Daily News*, and after a gruff reception by the acting editor was asked to expand it into three columns, to be paid for at the rate of five guineas a column—an enormous sum to him in those days of impoverishment. "I wrote like a whirlwind then, and I found that the faster I wrote the better I wrote," he said. "The picture grew on the canvas. I had that glow and sense of power which come to a man when he knows that he is doing good work. The space allowed to me would not hold half my picture. I took it incomplete to the editor—three columns written in three hours, and begged him to give me more space." The acting editor glanced at it and said, "Very good. We'll take as much of this kind of stuff as you can write." "At five guineas a column?" "Yes." Forbes filled his pipe, and was happy. Then the editor himself, who had been absent on a holiday, came back, and Forbes told him of the offer his associate had made. It was John Robinson (not then knighted), to whom I refer later in my reminiscences of James Payn. Robinson was of those who armour themselves against impositions on their own kindness by an affectation of severity. To Forbes' amazement he said, "I think not," and seemed to repudiate the arrangement for further contributions. Forbes could not keep his temper, and having expressed his opinion of the *Daily News* with the utmost frankness, strode out of the door and downstairs. He heard a call "Come back! Come back!" but flung over his shoulder a retort of three words, which, had Robinson heeded it, would, as he laughingly declared afterwards, have relieved him of the necessity of ordering coal for the rest of his days. Robinson followed him and caught him before he had turned the corner of Bouverie Street. "Come back, man, and don't be a fool. I don't want articles written in Fleet Street. I want you in the field—to start for Metz to-night."

JAMES PAYN AND "JOHN INGLESANT."

James Payn, "a typical Englishman of his class," valuing above all things what is sensible and what is sincere, as a publisher's reader rejected "John Inglesant," "and never recanted his opinion of it, though he was hard hit by its immediate acceptance and success through another house." A good story is told of Payn when he was editing the *Cornhill* :—

One day an unannounced caller who had managed to evade the porter downstairs opened Payn's door. His hair was long and his clothes were shabby and untidy. He had a roll of papers in his hand. Payn, surmising a poet and an epic several thousand lines long, looked up. "Well, sir?" "I've brought you something about Sarcoma and Carcinoma." "We are overcrowded with poetry—couldn't accept another line, not if it were by Milton." "Poetry!" the caller flashed. "Do you know anything about Sarcoma and Carcinoma?" "Italian lovers, aren't they?" said Payn imperturbably. The caller retreated with a withering glance at the editor. Under the same roof as the *Cornhill* was the office of a medical and surgical journal, and it was this that the caller sought for the disposal of a treatise on those cancerous growths with the euphonious names, which, with a layman's ignorance, Payn ascribed to poetry.

HOW THE SOCIALIST BOGEY IS MANUFACTURED.

IN the *Empire Review* Mr. C. A. W. Pownall declares that Cobdenism is responsible for Socialism, and makes a strong appeal for the replacing of "the semi-Socialist group of politicians which now forms the Cabinet," and the "enabling our industries to compete on fair terms with the foreigner." In order to induce his readers to take any way of escape from the terror of Socialism, he commits himself to the following array of alarms :—

About the intention of this Socialism to wreck society, not only in the State but in the home, we are left in no doubt. "Repudiate God, reason and duty—Why not?" says Mr. Bernard Shaw. "The Ten Commandments want tearing up and a new code printed," adds Mr. J. T. Macpherson, M.P. "The Holy Catholic Church may go hang," writes the *Socialist Standard*. As to domestic life in this new era we can have some idea of what it will be like. Mr. Robert Owen tells us that, "In the new moral world the irrational names of husband and wife, parent and child, will be heard no more." Mr. Quelch, the editor of *Justice*, is still more explicit. "I do want to abolish marriage. I do want to see the whole system of society as at present constituted swept away. We want no marriage bond. We want no bonds at all. We do want free love." Mr. Bernard Shaw is capable of a step further. "Unless woman repudiates her womanliness, her duty to her husband, to her children, to society, to the law, and to every one but herself, she cannot emancipate herself."

This is an interesting illustration of the way in which bogeys are manufactured. Either Mr. Pownall knows, or does not know, the quality of the authorities he quotes. If he does not know he has no business to write on such a subject; if he does know, then he is guilty of wilful misrepresentation. For, as everyone knows who knows anything of modern Socialism, neither Bernard Shaw, nor J. T. Macpherson, nor Mr. Robert Owen, nor Mr. Quelch would be accepted as any authority whatever to-day.

"AUSTRALIA'S GOLDEN FLEECE."

UNDER this heading, Mr. Harry S. Gullett contributes a jubilant paper to *United Empire*. He regards pastoral progress in Australia as one of the triumphs of British industry. He says the Australian inlander seems to be of a happy-go-lucky breed, but no class in the Commonwealth is more engrossed in its work nor has an equal record for the successful use of brains in industry. Australia exports wool annually to the value of almost thirty millions sterling. There are twenty millions more of other pastoral products. Though hard pressed by increasing agriculture and mineral productions, the pastoral industry is still the "greatest money-spinner." Australia's wool has "no rival for quality in the world," and the flocks in the Commonwealth outnumber those of any other country. All wool-growing lands bid for Australia's sheep. In August last a single New South Wales merino ram was sold for 1,350 guineas.

The real father of Australia's wool industry was Captain Macarthur, an officer attached to the Botany Bay Station. On a visit to England early in the last century, he purchased a few pure merino sheep from a stud built on Spanish blood by King George III. at Kew and dispersed because unsuitable to England's moist pastures. From that day to this the industry has flourished exceedingly. The Australian merino breeder is a scientist of a high order. Long after Macarthur began his breeding, the average weight of the fleece of a single merino sheep was 3½lbs., but to-day it is almost 7½lbs. The quality of the wool has been improved "out of sight." The sheep itself is probably half as heavy again. "The breeder mixes his sheep just as a chemist mixes materials, and with the same easy certainty of result." By ring-barking close to the roots the trees were killed, and thousands of square miles of forest became excellent pastureland. The following table summarises pastoral progress in Australia:—

Period.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
1800...	203 ...	1,044 ...	6,124
1850...	159,951 ...	1,894,834 ...	15,993,954
1880...	1,068,402 ...	7,527,142 ...	62,186,702
1900...	1,609,654 ...	8,640,225 ...	70,602,995
1907...	1,871,714 ...	10,180,214 ...	87,650,263

And each decade the industry becomes better insured. Men give more and more attention to water and fodder conservation, and are beginning to carry over from the general years of surplus to the exceptional years of scarcity. The State is always building additional railways and embarking upon great national irrigation schemes. Wool advances in price: Europe opens its markets to Australian beef and mutton and lamb. The pastoral industry must inevitably give larger and more regular returns.

PETS are continually being made of the most unlikely animals, but probably the hedgehog is one of the last kinds of creature that one would think of as a household favourite. Yet in *Badminton* Mr. J. C. Bristow-Noble tells how he discovered, captured, and domesticated a nest of little hedgehogs.

IRRIGATION BETTER THAN RAIN!

MECHANICAL appliance has yielded a number of startling paradoxes in its course. But not least startling is the announcement that the parched desert may prove more fertile than moist loam, and irrigation produce better results than rain. In a paper in the *United Empire* on irrigation, Mr. C. W. Peterson, General Manager of the Canadian Pacific Irrigation and Colonisation Company, declares his thorough belief in irrigation. He says, "The Bible leads us to infer that the Garden of Eden was irrigated." "Irrigation is the most ancient system of agriculture known." Farming under natural rainfall is of much more recent origin. Even to-day seven-eighths of the entire food supply of the world is produced upon irrigated lands:—

Where farming is carried on depending upon natural rainfall only, which does not differentiate, all plants are perforce treated alike, no matter how varied their moisture requirements may be. Every practical farmer and every thinking person must admit that irrigation is the only agricultural system that ordinarily permits of the most intelligent treatment, at a very insignificant cost, of each individual crop on the farm, and opens up possibilities in the way of the diversification of crops impossible on the non-irrigated farm.

Mr. Peterson particularises the advantages of irrigation thus:—

By applying the exact degree of moisture, the very colour and texture of fruits and vegetables can be regulated to a nicety. The irrigation farmer can keep his crops growing until they have attained their maximum development. He then shuts off the water and ripens them quickly. He can make the wheat berries fill by watering when the grain is "in milk." He can "clear" the barley grain and produce the world's finest malting barley. The onion raiser keeps his bulbs growing until ripening time. He then dries them off, thus ensuring the most perfect keeping qualities. By always keeping potatoes evenly moist, they are made smooth and free from knobs and second growths. It is a curious fact that, perhaps, with the exception of hard wheat, the world's standard crops are produced on irrigated lands.

A further surprise is given us in the alleged superiority of the arid to the humid stretches of soil:—

An enormous agricultural advantage in connection with lands located in arid or sub-humid districts, to which irrigation would generally be confined, is the fact that the soil is uniformly of great richness. The reason for this is perfectly clear. Under humid conditions the soil is continually subjected to bleaching by heavy rains. The water penetrates the sub-soil, washing with it valuable plant foods, which it is thus impossible to retain near the surface, where it is required for the sustenance of the crop. It is now an accepted theory amongst soil chemists that the richest soils of the Continent of America lie in the vicinity of the 100th Meridian, where the rainfall is the lowest.

THE *Anti-Vivisection Review* for January states that at no previous election has so much organised anti-vivisection activity been in the field, and adds, "We have met with so much whole-hearted sympathy, and such warm response, that there can be no doubt that also in the new Parliament the cause of the animals will have a strong body of supporters." There are revelations of the Rockefeller Institute—"the Paradise of vivisectionists and the Inferno of the animals."

ENGLAND'S UNIVERSAL POLITICAL POWER.

THE WORLD-SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR ELECTIONS.

IN the Political Correspondence of the *Preussische Jahrbücher* for February, Dr. Emil Daniels writes on the Universal Political Power of England, by way of showing the immense significance to the world of the General Election.

THE BRITISH CENTURY.

The English Election, he writes, is looked upon in every part of the world as an event which concerns not only Britons but all the nations of the earth, since the result decides the composition of the British Government; and this Government rules directly over one-fifth of the area of the globe, while indirectly its influence on the world is almost unlimited. On account of Goethe, Hegel, and Ranke, the nineteenth century has been called the German century, but judged by the first decade it seems as if the twentieth century is going to be the British century. At the present moment the English nation is taking a position in the world the immensity of which there are few words strong enough to describe.

PLAYING A DOUBLE GAME.

The system of British friendships and alliances encircles as by a continuous chain almost the whole world. To begin with, England can reckon upon France and the Iberian Peninsula. Then comes Italy, with many of her railways running close to the coast within range of the cannon of the English fleet. From the Apennine Peninsula the chain of England's indirect power extends to the Balkan States. Recently, for instance, the British Ambassador in Athens was able to offer the Greeks unasked-for advice, and it was listened to with respect, but the representatives of the other Powers would not have dared to interfere in Greek affairs. But how else could it be? If Turkey cannot keep Albania, Italy would like to have it, Austria wants Macedonia, and Russia Thrace and Asia Minor. Thus Greece is in danger of falling under a yoke, not so hard as the Turkish perhaps, but one which could never be shaken off, and it is not surprising, therefore, that she should seek the support of the sea-ruling English. The wonder is that England has succeeded in winning the confidence of the Greeks without offending the Young Turks, and it is still more wonderful that England should have been able to play with success for two or three generations this double game of making friends of the Christians without making enemies of the Mohammedans, for to both religious parties she is regarded as the Mother of Freedom. While the Englishman is anything but beloved in any part of Germany, all other hearts in the wide world fly to him—at least in politics.

FRIENDSHIP WITH TURKEY.

Perhaps the Turk believes that England's hatred of his country was only hatred of the despotism of Abdul Hamid. To-day, when Turkey has become Constitutional, English financiers have done some business with the Turkish Government; but more important is the change brought about in the route of the Bagdad Railway. Like the Italian railways, the Bagdad Railway will now lie within range of the guns of the English warships. But the English, who took Egypt from the Turks, would to-day like to take Mesopotamia and Arabia also. Meanwhile, to the triumphs of English statesmanship must be added the ability to walk hand-in-hand with Arabs and Young Turks at the same time. Russians and French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italians, Slavs and Greeks, Turks and Arabs are in fact all yoked together in England's carriage.

ENGLISH RELATIONS IN ASIA.

At one with the Turks and sure of the Arabs, the English stand in as good relations with Persia as the present circumstances permit. Also to Persia England appears as the land from which the oppressed nations have everything to hope and despots everything to fear. For this reason the English, who have taken the southern part of Persia under friendly protection, are regarded with greater favour than the Russians in the north. The Russo-Japanese War has made a deeper impression on the political imagination of the Oriental nations than the great struggle for Sebastopol, but there is this difference—in 1857 England and Russia were hostile to each other, whereas to-day they live under a diplomatic understanding. So long as the friendship between England and Russia exists, and England is allied to the third Asiatic Great Power, namely, Japan, only a fraction of the desperadoes in India will make any attempt at a rising against Great Britain. With Russia, whose power extends from Eastern Asia to the Prussian frontier, and with Japan, the chain of English alliances, *ententes*, and friendships ends. The only weak spot seems to be Manchuria, and it is not impossible that this apparently uninteresting corner of the globe should some day assume enormous significance in European politics, though at the present moment all the diplomatic constellations and combinations look as if they were arranged to last for ever.

IN the *Socialist Review* Miss K. B. Glasier speaks very disparagingly of the election literature of the recent crisis. The suggestion seems to be that the uncertain crowd, whose votes are most sought for, are on the lowest intellectual level. Someone signing himself "Semen Rapoport" has discovered a monstrous mare's nest—that, namely, King Edward VII. "has entered with all his heart and soul into a compact of monarchs against democracy"; for was he not alarmed by the birth and growth of the Labour Party? had he not omitted invitations to Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. Victor Grayson and Mr. Ponsonby to his garden party? had he not visited the Tsar of Russia? This sort of attack on the monarchy only covers its authors with ridicule.

THE MESSAGE OF WILLIAM O'BRIEN.

THE ONLY BASIS OF HOPE FOR IRELAND.

MR. W. O'BRIEN went to Italy last autumn to enjoy, as he believed, the remaining years of his life in retirement. As a kind of last political Will and Testament he sat him down to write an article for the *Nineteenth Century* entitled "The New Power in Ireland."

In this State paper Mr. O'Brien describes the new era inaugurated by the Land Purchase Act that sprang from the Shawe Taylor Conference of 1903, and explains why things have not progressed further towards the unification of Ireland than they have at present. The fault, he says, lies at the door of Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon, Mr. Devlin, and the directors of the Nationalists, who, after having enjoyed for seven years unparalleled opportunities of power and usefulness, have only devised a policy of boisterous nothingness the result of which has been failure, unmitigated and conclusive, the shaming of all they prophesied of evil for the policy they assailed, and a record of utter barrenness of achievement on their own part.

A PISGAH VIEW OF THE PROMISED LAND.

Mr. O'Brien solemnly takes leave of his countrymen, and closes his Parliamentary life with content and thanksgiving :—

To have counted, even for a little, in making hundreds of thousands tillers of the soil, in his young days as liable as foxes to be hunted, the freeholders of their own fields; in transferring forty thousand half-fed labourers from unspeakable hovels to flower-girt cottages and plenteous gardens; in restoring three thousand evicted tenants, the maimed and wounded of the old wars, from depths of neglect and despair to the warmth of their own old reilluminated hearths; in publishing abroad the requirements of the congested districts, which were fifteen years ago as unknown as those of mid-Africa and are now the commonplaces of every official brief; and (no less pleasant thought) in aiding to rescue another order of his countrymen from a state of financial entanglement in which enmity and oppression became as the necessaries of life, and give them a higher function in their native land, is a retrospect which might well moisten eyes the least accessible to emotion.

FAREWELL !

Mr. O'Brien rejoices even to think that his own disappearance from the arena may contribute to the work of national unification :—

Therefore, with the elimination of a personality grown to be a hindrance by no fault of his own or, perhaps, of anybody else, and with the certainty that under no conceivable circumstances will his ghost return to vex the Parliamentary arena, disappears one considerable difficulty in the reconsideration of the Irish situation by the light of recent events.

HEY, PRESTO ! HERE WE ARE AGAIN !

Mr. O'Brien concluded his paper by lamenting the lack of the indispensable leader, "the man of experienced good sense and generous imagination with the necessary formula of conciliation." But he consoles himself by reflecting that "Ireland is a country fertile in surprises and not unfertile in heroic sons." The proofs of the article were not corrected before Mr. O'Brien supplied the greatest surprise to his countrymen by suddenly returning to the political arena. Ireland's heroic son, who had just sung his swan song and proclaimed his final and irrevocable disappearance, suddenly reappeared.

WHY HE CAME BACK.

Mr. O'Brien says :—

It is one of life's little ironies that the one trophy the statesmanship of the Irish Party has brought back from the General Election is my resuscitation. They had only to complete the effect of my retirement by forgetting that a certain number of their and my old colleagues had like myself stood true to the treaty of 1903, in obedience to a self-denying patriotic duty, and the General Election would have passed over for them almost without a contest and assuredly without a single defeat at the polls. But to the secret cabinet of "the Board of Erin," who are now the admitted masters of the open national organisation and of its funds, the opportunity seemed too tempting to wipe out the last vestiges of resistance to their despotism in the councils of the party.

So he came back.

WHY HE STAYED BACK.

He says that when he left Florence he had no intention of re-entering Parliament :—

Having been for nine months entirely cut off from Irish news, and having returned for the sole purpose of aiding in defending the seats of my own half-a-dozen adherents, which, as I supposed, alone were aimed at, I found the country seething with indignation at the plots for decapitating quite one-fourth of the entire Irish Party. The plots of "the Board of Erin" were resented all the more fiercely because all the men marked down for destruction had been opposed to Mr. Birrell's Land Bill, which has brought land purchase to a dead stop outside the congested districts, and to Mr. Lloyd George's Budget, which, whatever its effects in England, spelled ruin for the finances of any future Irish Parliament. The issues thus madly challenged by "the Board of Erin" at the Irish elections were—1st, the Budget; 2nd, the destruction of land purchase; and 3rd, the usurpation of the rights of the Irish constituencies, and of the control of the national funds by a secret caucus of "the Board of Erin." Upon all these issues the Grand Master and his lieutenants sustained at the polls, wherever the straight issue was faced, a defeat so damaging that nothing except the total absence of concerted action against "the machine" prevented it from approaching to annihilation.

HIS ONE CARDINAL PRINCIPLE.

But I have already quoted enough. Those who wish to know more about the Board of Erin, which controls the Molly Maguires, a secrety society from which every Protestant is excluded, must turn to the pages of the *Nineteenth Century*. Whatever may be thought of Mr. O'Brien's diagnosis of the situation, no one can read without sympathy his stirring appeal in favour of the All-for-Ireland policy, which has for its "cardinal principle the winning over the British people and the Irish Protestant minority to the cause of self-government by sincere and unmistakable proofs of Irish friendliness, fraternity, and community of interest, without hostility to either of the great British parties, and without subservience to the merely partisan interests of either of them."

THE Theosophical Society has now 786 lodges spread over all parts of the world, and consisted at the end of the last year under report of 16,898 members, and 3,527 had been added as new members.

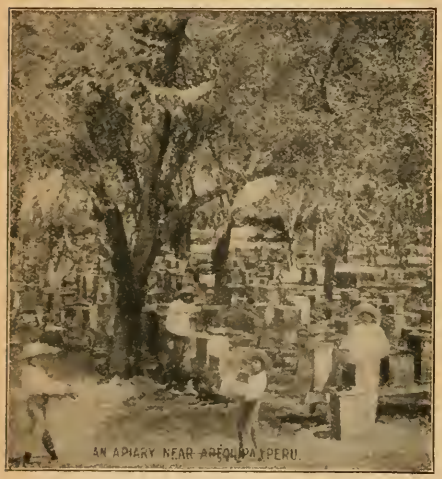
THE GREAT TRADE IN HONEY.

THE CONSERVATION OF THE BEE.

THE *Bulletin of the International Bureau of the American Republics* for February contains an interesting paper on honey, by Mr. Russell H. Millward. It is not known, he says, of which country the bee is a native, though it is known for a certainty that primitive man kept bees and gathered honey, which he ate himself and offered to the gods as an oblation. In both Egypt and Mexico honey has been found, in excellent preservation, in hermetically sealed vessels among prehistoric ruins. In Mexico bees were known long before the days of Cortes, and there are plenty of wild bees there now.

300,000 TONS OF HONEY A YEAR.

It is "conservatively estimated," says the writer, that over 300,000 tons of honey are produced



An Apiary in the Alfalfa Country, near Harvard Observatory.

annually, the American Republics yielding about two-thirds of this amount. The demand for honey has now become so great, and the conservation of the bee so important to the American Republics, that the United States Department of Agriculture has set aside about £2,000 annually for the study of apiculture, and many State and agricultural colleges are also occupied with the subject. In South and Central America and Mexico the stingless variety of bee is a native, but there are many other introduced varieties. The value of the honey now produced yearly in the United States alone reaches about £4,000,000, and that of beeswax about £400,000. The United States do not find this enough, and have to import about 2,500,000 pounds of honey and about 750,000 pounds of beeswax annually, which come chiefly from Cuba and the Central and South American Republics. Of the different varieties of States honey Californian sage honey is considered as good as any.

WHERE THE HONEY GOES.

Immense quantities of honey are used for making cakes, biscuits, and confectionery by the United States, Germany, England, and France. Over one-half the world's production of honey is probably used in confectionery and medicinal preparations, and new uses are being constantly found for both it and beeswax. And it might certainly be said that were honey as cheap as jam, much more of it still would be used. The reason why honey is preferred to sugar by bakers and confectioners is that biscuits made with it keep so much better than others.

BEESWAX AND ITS USES.

Beeswax, which is a separate industry from that of honey, is used for making candles and tapers, which are excellent for burning in churches, as they do not injure fabrics or pictures; in varnishes, polish, etc.; as a preventive against rust of machinery; by laundries as a polish for finishing starched articles; by chemists as a basis for salves, and in plasters and certain ointments; by dentists for taking impressions of the mouth, and in a great variety of other ways.

SOUTH AMERICAN HONEY.

In Argentina honey is in such demand that over 100,000 pounds has to be annually imported; and the Agricultural Department of Brazil is now making efforts to develop apiculture and increase the output of honey and beeswax. In Brazil there are many varieties of bees, and some of the local flowering trees are excellent for honey. The Government encourage vanilla planters at Sao Paolo to keep bees, and in one way and another a great deal of honey is produced in Brazil, but she can use most of it herself.

A great deal of bee-keeping is carried on in Chile, where it is estimated that a hive will yield on an average fifty pounds of honey annually. Over 1,000,000 lbs. of purified wax and 5,000,000 lbs. of honey are exported annually from Chile, of which Germany manages to secure sixty per cent. Chilian honey is considered very good. Aconcagua province, with its many flowers, is one of the best for producing it.

Cuba also produces a great deal of honey, most of which Germany also contrives to purchase. Wild honey is found in abundance throughout Mexico, especially in the forests of the Algarroba tree. The bees are stingless, and consequently looked on almost as household pets. Wild honey is also found in Nicaragua, and in other parts of America, Central and Southern. The black ant is the deadly enemy of nearly all American bees, the hives being often raised from the ground and set in water to prevent their attacks.

IN UNEXPLORED BORNEO.

IN *Travel and Exploration* Dr. Charles Hose gives a most vivid and even thrilling account of his tour ten years ago in the Madang country, a hitherto unexplored district lying between the head waters of the Batang-Kayan, Rejang and Baram rivers, and inhabited by the Madangs, a warlike tribe of Kenyahs, who by constant raids had become the terror of all the surrounding country. The distance and the dangerous rapids were the chief difficulties. Of the landscape he says :—

The Kenyah and Kayan district is lovely undulating country, fertile, and covered with old jungle, except in places near the banks of the rivers, where it has been cleared and cultivated by the natives.

SHOOTING THE RAPIDS.

In the Lata River the rapids and waterfalls are the finest I have ever met with in Borneo. At the head of this rapid we found a number of Madangs awaiting us with a very small boat, which they had hewn out of a tree the day before, having a few days previously heard of our advent. They invited me to sit in this boat, while by means of rattan ropes, secured to stem and stern, nine strong men (jumping from rock to rock in the most marvellous manner, swimming about in the water, and crossing the river from side to side in their erratic progress) hauled me along over huge rocks and swirling rapids, for ever warning me the while to keep my hands in board for fear of getting my fingers jammed against the boulders. When seated right in the bottom of the boat it was only large enough to contain me, while my body alone acted as a barrier to prevent the water, sweeping copiously over the bows, from flowing into the stern. After about four hours of this peculiar travelling we reached Long Purau, where we stopped for a time at a Madang village to dry our clothes and collect our property.

THE MADANG VILLAGE.

This village, which contained about two thousand people, consisted of nine long houses forming a circle, the centre of which had been cleared of shrubs and trees. For a considerable radius outside this ring the jungle had been felled, and the land was farmed on that side which was more or less bounded by the river. The settlement, it was evident, had been laid out on a plan best calculated to resist attack. The Madangs assisted in making huts for my followers, gave them several pigs, and sent down their women laden with baskets full of rice, so no want of hospitality could be said to mar our reception. In the evening I took a walk round the village, followed by a crowd of women and children, who appeared greatly pleased to find that the white man was able to converse with them. Then, as the crowd increased, I sat down on a log and produced a few pounds of tobacco, and the whole party were soon chatting and laughing as if they had known me for years. I have often noticed that the women of the Kenyah tribe in the interior are far more genial and less shy than those of others, and I believe that the surest sign of the good faith of natives such as these is when the women and children come out to greet one unattended by the men. The sounds of our merriment soon attracted the attention of the men, and as they strolled over and joined us in gradually increasing numbers, the possibility of any disturbance taking place between these people and mine quickly vanished from my mind.

In the evening he witnessed a funeral procession :—

It is apparently a great relief to their minds to think that they can shut out the spirit of the deceased. They believe that the spirit of the dead is not aware that life has left the body until a short time after the coffin has been taken to the graveyard, and then not until the spirit has had leisure to notice the clothes, weapons, and other articles belonging to its earthly estate, which are placed with the coffin. But before this takes place the gate has been closed.

The Madangs are a very light-skinned people, with bright, dark eyes and perfectly straight, long black hair. They are fairly tall for Borneo natives, and very muscular, clean, and free from skin diseases so common among Dayaks, Kayans and Muruts. They are energetic and quick in their movements, splendid boatmen, and able to travel long distances in the jungle on foot without apparently becoming much fatigued. Their only garments consist of coats and waistcloths made from the bark of a tree known as kumut, which is beaten out to a thin cloth with a wooden mallet. The women also use this bark cloth for their petticoats and for the shawls in which they wrap their babies. They live in long houses holding thirty to fifty families in each

A Kenyah Warrior.

(*From "Travel and Exploration," February.*)

house. Their occupations include the cultivation of extensive padi farms, of which they plant sufficient for their wants.

SETTLING BLOOD FEUDS PEACEABLY.

Next morning a pig was killed, and its liver was pronounced a favourable omen. So the long-standing feuds between the tribes were settled :—

Then two men messengers were sent backwards and forwards to discuss the number of people killed on either side from time to time, and big gongs, shields, and weapons of all kinds changed hands as blood-money. When all had been settled, notice was given to our people that the Madangs were ready to receive them into their houses, and the Baram people sent a message back that they were prepared to accept the invitation. With Kayan and Kenyah tribes, when enemies meet it is necessary to go through a sort of sham fight, called "*jawa*," so that both parties can, as it were, blow off steam; as it is very rough for a few minutes, it often happens that some people are badly hurt, and I was half afraid that such might be the case in the present instance. But the omen had been favourable, and the implicit belief in such omen goes far to prevent bad feeling.

In the evening of the following day the Madangs prepared a feast for all present, and afterwards a great deal of rice-spirit was drunk, and some very good speeches made, their former troubles and difficulties being explained and discussed in the most open manner. Each chief spoke in turn, and concluded by offering a drink to another, and singing a few lines of the eulogy, the whole assembly joining in a very impressive chorus at the end of each line, and ending up with a tremendous roar as the bamboo cup was emptied.

The Madangs are a very musical race and possess many musical instruments. Amongst these are a sort of reed organ, a banjo, gongs and drums, a bamboo harp, and a nose flute.

The Madangs and Kenyahs have for years smelted their own iron, and the weapons made from that steel retain their value to the present day. They are great blacksmiths and skilful engravers on metal, some of their work bearing the closest examination.

The Madangs and Kenyahs judge the season for planting rice by the sun. They measure the shadow cast at midday with a pole set up near the village, guarded by a fence to keep away mischievous children and animals. In height it is more than a fathom by the span and first finger. A piece of string weighted at each end and thrown over the top shows when it is perfectly upright. The length of the shadow is measured by a stick called "*asu do*," which is marked with notches gradually approaching one another more closely as they get further from the pole.

The measuring stick is left in charge of some old and presumably wise man, less capable than his fellows of hard work, who sees to it that the shadow is not measured obliquely and reports the favourable moment. This man is excused from farming, and is supplied with necessaries in return for his services. In good years he naturally is very well treated.

THE CHAPEL CAR.

MARGARET LILLIS HART, in the *Canadian Magazine* for February, describes the methods adopted in the Dominion for Catholic Church extension. She says :—

An altogether new and unique feature in the propaganda is the establishment of the "Chapel Car," which is an ordinary railway car fitted up with all the appointments for holding religious services and to which a missionary chaplain is attached. This little "chapel on wheels" remains for a few days in different parts of the country, and during its stay attracts to itself those to whom it is destined to minister from all the surrounding districts.

As a missionary agency, doubtless, the chapel car is a novelty. But on the great Siberian railway there is a chapel car regularly attached for service *en route*.

THE CHOPIN CENTENARY.

IN the *Correspondant* of February 10th M. D. Calvocoressi has a delightful appreciation of Chopin and his work *à propos* of the centenary of the composer's birth, which occurred on February 22nd of the present year, and not on March 1st, 1809, as some writers have maintained.

The *rôle* of a pure musician, says the writer, is to express in his own way what his genius dictates. He does not revolt because his music is never in antagonism with the music of any of his peers. Chopin never dreamt of revolting against any tradition; all he wanted to do was to give to the world what he had to give and nothing else. Since his music is before all things expressive, it naturally abounds in new turns and original resources. Gradually he began to influence his contemporaries, especially Liszt, and the writer even suggests that through Liszt he may also have influenced Wagner.

One of the most notable characteristics of the evolution of musical art in the nineteenth century is the distinction of musical nationalities. Both Schubert and Weber have something specifically German, but the first master in whose works nationality asserts itself in an evident, preponderating, and indisputable manner is certainly Chopin. As much from patriotism as from musical instinct Chopin desired to embody in his compositions all the aspirations of his race and the substance of all their songs, and he did not fail in his ideal. From the folk-music of Poland he borrowed its rhythmical peculiarities as well as its ample and supple melody. From the point of view of nationality he was the precursor of the admirable school in which the distinctive qualities of the Russian race have been brought to perfection. Glinka, M. Balakireff, and M. Glazounoff all admired Chopin's work.

Almost everything which Chopin wrote is of the highest order; its variety is equally admirable. Thanks to his inexhaustible imagination he never repeats himself. Each one of his some fifty mazurkas has its own interest and teaches us something new. It is in the polonaises that he reveals himself most entirely and in the mazurkas that we recognise most his nationality. Though to a certain degree the tangible object of the *études* is to exploit the technical resources of the piano, these pieces are nevertheless examples of pure and expressive music. The preludes are among the best of Chopin's works—"pages of a book of musical thoughts, some of them as short as maxims."

IN the *New Church Magazine* for January and February Mr. William E. A. Axon discourses on Swedenborg as a Man of Letters and a Book-Lover; while Mr. Charles Higham writes, in the February number, on Swedenborg's Library and Manuscripts. The Swedenborg Society's Centenary occurred on February 26th.

MAPPING THE HEAVENS.

By Sir David Gill.

THE principal article in the *London* is by Sir David Gill upon "Mapping the Heavens," a work which has already been going on for twenty years, and is likely to continue for at least another twenty. As he says, the results to which this great work will lead are interesting, and not to astronomers alone.

THE PIONEER WORK.

The work of charting the Southern Heavens began in 1885, and five years and ten months were spent in making the necessary star photographs, and then the plates had to be measured, the relative positions of the minute specks estimated, and the places of the stars computed, before, finally, they could be catalogued. At the Paris Observatory meanwhile, the brothers Henry were making some still more extensive star-maps. The writer, who knew of this, sent to the Director of the Observatory, Admiral Mouchez, some of the photographs of the great comet of 1882, explaining how these were taken, and the advantages of making star-maps in a similar way. The result of this was that the brothers Henry set about devising a telescope for star photography, and succeeded. In the end, the writer suggested to Admiral Mouchez that an International Congress should be summoned, to meet in Paris, and the whole project of mapping the heavens discussed. This Congress was attended by fifty-six delegates from European countries, the United States of America and of Brazil, and Argentina. The work of mapping the heavens was decided upon, and has since been carried out at selected observatories, all possessing instruments practically similar to that devised by the brothers Henry in Paris. All stars down to the fourteenth magnitude were to be charted, and all down to the eleventh to be catalogued. A star of the eleventh magnitude, Sir David Gill explains, is about as bright as Halley's comet is now. The committee appointed by the Paris Congress has met several times—in 1889, 1891, 1896, 1900, and last in 1909.

THE ADVANTAGES OF MAPPED HEAVENS.

First, for astronomical purposes, comes the catalogue of about 4,000,000 stars :—

Thus, says Sir David Gill, the astronomer will be able to refer to any star by its number and place in the particular zone of the catalogue. He will be able to say what is the exact position in the sky of any planet or comet he may observe by merely measuring its distance from two or more of the catalogued stars. It will, in fact, provide accurately defined points in the sky which will resemble in some measure the trigonometrical points which are set up throughout a country, and which, when we know exactly where they are, and how distant from one another, enable the boundaries of land to be laid down, and the hills and valleys and rivers to be accurately mapped.

The survey beacons, however, are fixed, but the stars are not. However, since the nearest star would take, at 50 miles an hour, 60,000,000 years to reach, it is obvious that we cannot perceive that it has moved except after a considerable number of years. If an observer on the nearest star tried to note the sun's motion he could not, with the naked eye, see anything of it before at least 60 years. No wonder, as the writer says, the old astronomers thought the stars were fixed. With the refined instruments of to-day, however, such a movement could be detected in a month, and could be got nearly right in a year :—

But most of the apparent movements, continues Sir David Gill, are far smaller than that, so much so that it takes a century to determine them exactly. That is to say, if we make a photographic chart to-day, then in a hundred years' time we should be able to see how and where the stars have moved. Thus, with this great catalogue of which we have been speaking in their hands, the astronomers of the next century will be able to say what the movements of four millions of stars have been t

FORTY MILLION STARS LOCATED.

The great star chart, when complete, will consist of a series of maps containing altogether thirty or forty millions of stars. Sometimes the positions of stars fainter than the eleventh magnitude will be indicated. Possibly, it may be the means of discovering a suspected planet in the solar system beyond Neptune. It will not include "visitors" in the heavens, such as comets, and this statement leads the writer to remark that Halley's Comet, "far the most interesting of all comets," will be visible about May 21st as "an evening star," probably with a great deal of tail.

THE TURKISH FINANCES.

IN the mid-February number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* M. Raphael Georges Lévy has an article on the Finances of Turkey. He says the financial side of the Turkish problem is not the most arduous. If Turkey's foreign policy does not create complications necessitating considerable unforescen expenditure, it must be admitted that the budgetary balance may be established in a few years; that is to say, the financial and economic restoration of the country can only be accomplished if the foreign policy of the Young Turks remains as prudent as their administrative programme seems wise. The foreign functionaries in the service of the Ministry of Finance are devoted to their work, and the writer thinks that an extension of the system might have happy results. At the same time the Ottoman Bank might render great service to the State not merely by making advances, but by putting into practice in a larger measure the articles and the statutes which the services of the Public Treasury attribute to it. This development would facilitate the operations of the Ministry of Finance and help on the accomplishment of monetary reform, which would be a great gain to the people. The Agricultural Bank should also be reorganised by the aid of Western specialists.

THE *Educational Times* for March contains an interesting article upon the history and progress of Esperanto, with explanations of the structure of the language and reasons for its promotion, especially from an educational point of view.

CATHEDRALS OF THE NEW WORLD.

IN the *Bulletin of the International Bureau of the American Republics*, which contains a great deal of interest for anyone who knows anything of South or Central America, there is a good article upon the cathedrals of South America. These cathedrals sometimes show that they were built at a time when all South America drew its artistic inspiration direct from Europe, and when its art, therefore, was purely imitative; and sometimes that they were built when local influences had begun to assert themselves, and a distinct South American style to be evolved. What is striking about all of these cathedrals is their size. How did such small and often poor places contrive to rear such erections? The answer is partly to be found in the fact that the sneer levelled at England—twenty-five religions and only one sauce—has no point in South America. The one religion could concentrate all its efforts on the cathedrals.

The cathedral of Lima is the earliest and the largest in South America. It was founded on the same day as the city, by Pizarro, on January 16th, 1535, and his bones rest here. The cathedral is built of greystone, of the grey of the surrounding landscape. Lima, however, is a city of churches, several of which equal, if they do not excel, the cathedral in beauty and interest. The cathedral of Lima is in the main square, and the city has been built round it—in a manner characteristic of the capitals of Latin America:—

The Cathedral of Lima, Peru.

In fact, this central aspect, the beauty of the surrounding mountains that in most cases seem part of the scheme, combined with the simple devotion of natives—comparable to, but by no means the same as, a European peasantry—produce a unique impression on both traveller and resident. This effect is not the impression produced in an Old World cathedral town. It is peculiar to Latin America.

It is difficult to describe the general style of architecture of these South American cathedrals. It is as far as possible from the aspiring Gothic style, and, truth to tell, to anyone accustomed only to European cathedrals, not altogether ecclesiastical. It has never the grace, it might be thought, of a cathedral like that of Chartres, but is often imposing. The two towers, which most of these cathedrals possess, are often at opposite ends of the building instead of being together at one end. Illustrations are given of the cathedrals at Quito, Caracas, Bogota, Arequipa, Sucre, Santiago de Chili, Cuzco, Buenos Ayres, Monte Video, Rio de Janeiro, and Asuncion. Cordova in Argentina the writer considers to have one of the most attractive cathedrals in South America, with much about it reminiscent of Moorish influence. The cathedral of Buenos Ayres is imitative of the Madeleine in Paris. That of Arequipa is situated at 7,560 ft. above the sea, and has as part of its background the peak of Misti, more than 20,000 ft. high. None of them date back beyond the first half of the sixteenth century.

KOREA IN REGENERATION.

IN the *Japan Magazine* for February Mr. J. R. Kennedy describes the regeneration of Korea. It is a rosy picture that he draws, but he gives it simply as a statement of fact:—

From north to south of "The Land of the Morning Calm" the dawn of hope is growing almost to brilliancy. The word picture of the Korea of twelve years ago has been completely changed. Seoul, a city of a quarter of a million people, is becoming more prosperous every day. Factories are building where the cotton grows in South Korea, and cattle graze among the valleys. Millions upon millions of trees are being planted upon the bare hills from which an improvident government permitted the timber to be ruthlessly cut. Thousands of Koreans are employed in digging from the earth the wealth of minerals with which Korea abounds, and more thousands will be employed every year for years to come. Gold, copper and iron are finding their way by shiploads into foreign countries. A great experimental station is there to teach the farmer how to make the most of his soil.

Where a few years ago dirt, ignorance, sickness, poverty, and savagery were the striking features of Korean life—no schools, no courts, no law, no sanitation, no just government—now city and country schools and colleges have been built, where the children of the ten million poor people of Korea can receive education; courts have been established and court-houses built where the Korean appeals to justice and gets it; the cities are clean and well governed; great hospitals, free to the poor, have been erected; the missionary from all lands and of all denominations is welcomed with open arms as an aid in the great work for the betterment of these people. The regeneration of Korea is well upon its way.

MUSIC AND ART IN THE MAGAZINES.

A British Composer.

Writing in the *World's Work* for February, Mr. Reginald R. Buckley gives us an interesting sketch of Mr. Rutland Boughton, the composer of "Choral Variations," "Love and Spring," "The Skeleton in Armour," etc. Born in 1878, Mr. Boughton was intended for a commercial career, yet at the age of eleven he gave a concert, the programme including compositions of his own. At the age of fourteen he entered the office of a London concert agency, determined to support himself till a chance came. In his spare time he wrote songs, an opera, a symphony, and a piano concerto. His training was still to be begun, and arrangements were made to send him to the Royal College of Music. After this came a time of struggle, and he held various positions in the orchestra of a London theatre. But composition continued, and among the works of this early period were settings of some Kipling songs. He also found time to write for the *Musical Standard*, and among his articles was a series on Modern English Composers. When Mr. Bantock was appointed Principal of the Midland Institute School of Music, he offered Mr. Boughton a place on the staff. At Birmingham Mr. Boughton is also conductor of the New Choral Society. For Southport he wrote some choral variations, one of them based on "William and Margaret," a folk-song. How he has rescued folk-songs from disuse is of interest to those who love these old ditties. He has great faith in the people, and he believes that their natural taste is for the best in Art. His songs include settings of poems by Edward Carpenter; and at present he is at work on a new dramatic form—choral drama—in which he is striving to unite the Wagnerian method of expression with a choral extension on the lines of Greek dramatic art.

Photograph by [*Campbell-Gray.*

Sir Frederick Bridge, Organist of Westminster Abbey.

He is a great authority on Early English music, and in this picture he has before him a page of the immortal Purcell.

Two Centuries of French Opera.

Miss A. E. Keeton has contributed to the February number of the *Contemporary Review* an interesting article on French Opera during the last two centuries. Three and a half centuries ago France, she tells us, had arrived at the identical stage in musical evolution which at the present time is being disputed for in a mildly chaotic and quite unpractical fashion in England. France has helped the development of individual expression, and has reaped a national benefit. Lully prepared the way for Rameau, the Bach of France, and Gluck bequeathed to posterity the finest conception of lyric tragedy. Then came Méhul, Boïeldieu, Meyerbeer, and other composers. Less than half a century separates the death of Rameau from the birth of Berlioz, the composer of "Benvenuto Cellini," "Les Troyens," etc. Gounod is described as a composer specially dear to women, to the same type of women who, in the age of Greuze, would have sought the pose and elegance of that painter's portraiture. No more sordid or brutal story has ever been transmitted into music than "Carmen," yet Bizet's opera is performed as frequently as "Faust." As a composer César Franck matured late. He bestowed ten years on his "Béatitudes," and was nearly sixty when he had finished with the score. Then it had to wait thirteen years for performance, three years after the composer's death. He wrote one symphony and one opera, "Hulda." Ernest Reyer's "Sigurd" forestalled Wagner's "Siegfried"; it was completed ten years before it received a hearing,

and by that time "The Ring" was pursuing a triumphant course through Europe. Bruneau's most striking work has been done in connection with the novels of Zola. Debussy is best known in opera by his "Pelléas et Mélisande," and Dukas for his opera founded on Maeterlinck's "Ariane et Barbe Bleue." Février's "Monna Vanna" was produced last year.

CÉSAR FRANCK.

The February number of the *Musical Times* opens with the first part of an article on M. Vincent d'Indy's "César Franck." M. d'Indy was a pupil of Franck's, and in many respects he is a writer fitted to speak with authority on Franck and his music, says Mr. Ernest Newman, the author of the article. Oddly enough, the greatest French musician of the latter part of the last century was not a Frenchman, but a Belgian, born at Liège in 1822. The Franck family settled in France in 1846, and César in time became a naturalised French citizen. For nearly half a century he lived a laborious life in Paris as a teacher of music, and the leading French musicians of his time seem to have been very jealous of him. When his symphony was given in 1889, M. d'Indy asked a professor what he thought of it. "*That* a symphony? Who ever heard of writing for the *cor anglais* in a symphony? Your Franck's music may be whatever you please, but it will never be a symphony!" was the reply. The gentle, humble, and retiring Franck was nevertheless the biggest force in French music in his day, and by his own work and through his pupils he has given it an impulse so fecund that its vigour is still undiminished. He raised immensely the standard of French instrumental music, and when we look at the newer schools of French composers, or at the larger and more intelligent public, for serious instrumental music, we find either his influence at work or some other influence that has grown out of it. Franck died in 1890; today only his symphony is coming into its own.

ALFRED THE GREAT IN ART.

In the series of articles in the *Windsor Magazine* on England's Story in Portrait and Picture, the article for February is devoted to the reign of Alfred the Great. The illustrations include the statue of Alfred by Mr. Hamo Thornycroft at Winchester, and reproductions of pictures by well-known artists representing Alfred as a boy, Alfred in the house of the neat-herd and the cakes burning on the hearth, Alfred disguised as a harper in the Danish camp, Alfred conducting the re-fortification of London in 886, Alfred building his fleet, Alfred submitting the laws to the Witan, Alfred translating, and several other subjects. The text gives an outline of the chief events in Alfred's reign. It is to be hoped the series will be continued down to our own day, though the selection of pictures will become more difficult, owing to the large number from which to make the choice. How much time and trouble have already been expended on the subject probably only the writer knows.

DRUGGING BIG GAME.

CAPTAIN FRITZ DUQUESNE contributes to *Fry's* a very thrilling account of trapping big game in the heart of Africa.

PRIME COST OF THE BEASTS.

He first describes the market inducement for the extremely perilous pursuit:—

Delivered at Nairobi or Port Florence, which are inland and practically on the hunting-field, a baby rhinoceros of the prehensile lipped species will bring from £75 to £100 sterling, a giraffe from £50 to £100 sterling, and a baby hippopotamus from £50 to £90 sterling; elands and most of the large antelope from £25 to £40 sterling; baboons from 5s. to 20s.; monkeys about the same; crocodiles from 5s. to 25s.; elephants from £75 to £175 sterling; lions and leopards, with the exception of the black species of the latter, from £20 to £35, according to size and condition. The gorilla and the square-muzzled (or so-called white) rhinoceros can be sold at auction by telegraph. Their value might run from £1,000 to £6,000, according to the bidding. The square-muzzled rhinoceros is fast becoming exterminated, owing to the fact that it is a veldt animal and feeds in the open, where it is easily seen and shot.

The above prices are doubled by the time the animals reach the coast. Then there is the cost of transport from Africa to Antwerp, Hamburg, or London, with the cost of food and care added, as well as the additional expense of keeping the animals until a buyer appears on the scene.

When it is taken into consideration that there are not more than five great circuses in the world, and only one hundred and fifty zoological gardens, the demand for wild animals must naturally be limited.

MORPHINE AS LION-TAMER.

Of the methods of capturing and of taming, the writer has much to say. He observes:—

Until the introduction of morphine, the trapping business was most revolting and most cruel. It can be easily imagined how a lion or rhinoceros, with all its mighty power, would injure itself in a fight for its liberty against the cunning contrivances of man. The man to whom the honour is due for the idea of using morphine for subduing fear-maddened beasts was one of my business and hunting associates, Koos Marais, a Transvaal physician, who found his countrymen so healthy that he had to adopt some other means than feeling pulses to make a living. So he took up capturing game.

He gives a very vivid account of trapping a lion in a pitfall:—

Finding himself helpless, he gave a mighty roar, and commenced to chew the ensnaring ropes. The natives caught the draw-ropes and drew the struggling monster from the pit, and tied him flat to pegs in the ground. Marais stepped up and quickly thrust the end of the hypodermic syringe into the beast's body. A few seconds later the morphine commenced to act, and the monarch of the forest, with a low groan, sank into unconsciousness as the wondering natives looked on and marvelled at the white man's magic. That lion now does "stunts" under the whip of a trainer for the amusement of the American public.

Hypodermic injections of morphine, however, do not answer well with the rhinoceros, for when it recovers from its stupor it is likely to be a hundred-fold fiercer and stronger than if made weak and submissive by starvation.

PEOPLE who want to know the meaning of the strange word Totalisator and how the thing works may find it described in *Fry's*.

WHERE NEW ZEALAND LEADS.

IN the *North American Review* for February Sir Robert Stout sings a pæan of jubilant praise over his beloved colony. He says no other country is so highly gifted by nature :—

It has the mountains of Switzerland, the fiords of Norway, the lakes and islands of Finland, the woods of Canada, and the plains of Central Europe. It has, in short, every variety of physical feature. It has one of the most healthy climates in the world, and it has everything suitable for the greatest and highest enjoyment of life.

NEW ZEALAND'S PRACTICAL SOCIALISM.

Sir R. Stout succinctly explains what New Zealand has done in realising the ideals of practical socialism. He says :—

The Government has kept control of what may be termed "the franchises." It controls large quantities of land. It is the owner of all our railways, and the principal hot springs in the thermal regions are Government property. In the municipalities, the tramways are with one exception owned by the cities in which they are operated. The gas-works and water-works and electric lighting are general municipal property. We have municipal theatres ; and the tendency is to increase State action where in most other countries private enterprise is left uncontrolled. We have a Public Trust Office that acts for private persons as trustee, as executor of wills, and as administrator of intestate estates ; it had recently four and a half million pounds' worth of property and money under its control. The doctrine of "eminent domain" in lands is not only recognised but acted upon, for the Government every year is taking large areas of land from private persons, paying to them compensation therefor according to its value, and subdividing these areas into small allotments and offering them for lease to settlers. The Government also in many instances directly constructs its railways without the intervention of a contractor.

INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION.

Mr. Ward, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, thus explains how the land lies with regard to industrial arbitration. He says :—

The Legislature had probably its most severe task in endeavouring to lift the law of industrial arbitration to a higher level than it had previously occupied. We found that it was with great difficulty that legislative pronouncement could fix with lasting effect any system applying fairly to so flexible and liquid a subject as modern industry. The Act passed in 1894 had for about twelve years a strong influence for good. It so modified the conditions of employer and worker that great benefits were received by both parties. As time went on, it was found that there was too great rigidity in the legal process. Dissatisfaction was widely expressed, and the long-banished strike began to rear its unwholesome head once more. Too much stress had gradually been laid on the compulsory portion of the Act, and too little attention given to conciliation. The new statute endeavours to "get back to conciliation."

For this purpose official conciliators are being appointed to settle trade disputes in their earliest stages if possible, or with the aid of a Council of Conciliation appointed by the contending parties. This Council has no judicial powers ; it is purely conciliatory, and only on its failure does the case proceed to the Arbitration Court. Strikes and lock-outs involving industrial unions registered under the Act are made punishable by fine and by attachment of part of wages, but strikes of persons not working under award or industrial agreement are without penalty. We trust that by means of these amendments of the Act the primal intention of its promoters may be restored, viz., to make compulsion a last resource, and one only to be invoked under rare and extreme circumstances.

A NEW SPAIN.

MR. FRANK D. HILL, American Consul-General at Barcelona, writes in the *American Review of Reviews* for March an article of much interest on modern Spain. Of course he deals principally with Catalonia and its chief town, Barcelona. "Progressive Spain" he considers to consist of the region skirting the Pyrenees from this town to San Sebastian, and of the region along the Bay of Biscay, where are Bilbao and Santander. The Catalans, he reminds us, are characterised by so much industry and frugality as to have been called the Dutch of Spain. The Barcelona plain contains from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 people, and every town and village there has its manufactures, 'the Manchester, Sheffield, Leeds and Birmingham of Spain, all in one." But Barcelona, as he admits, "is the least Spanish of all the towns of Spain."

FOREIGN INFLUENCE.

Foreign influence is very strong here, and particularly German influence, which is increasing. But French influence is also very powerful. After the Bank of Spain, the Crédit Lyonnais is the principal bank. French also own and manage the chief electric light company. Perhaps there are 12,000 French and 1,500 Germans, but only 400 or 500 British. Germans have a branch of the Deutsche Bank here, and manage one electric light company and the chief tramway companies. On the other hand, all the chief cotton mills in Catalonia are equipped with English machinery. The Italian colony numbers several thousands, and there are many Spaniards who have returned from the Americas more or less rich. Barcelona the writer describes as the Chicago of Spain, while Madrid would be its Boston and New York.

NOT DECADENT, BUT BACKWARD.

Like every modern writer on Spain, Mr. Hill pays high tribute to Havelock Ellis's "The Soul of Spain" as a book which has gone deeper into Spanish character than almost any other. He would not describe Spain as decadent, but as very, very backward. The Spain of Merimée and Bizet, even that of Washington Irving and Gautier, and that of Borrow, has vanished. Has that of Borrow completely vanished —in all districts? Spain, he adds, is still an unfrequented by-way by no means thronged with tourists—thank heaven! "It is yet one of the most unspoiled of European countries. On the other hand, the luxuries provided almost everywhere nowadays for the convenience of the globe-trotter are absent here, and in no modern country must the traveller depend so much upon himself."

The writer ends his article, which is an excellent brief survey of modern Spain (politics omitted), with some remarks on Spain's place in art and letters. He considers Perez Galdos as the chief name in contemporary Spanish literature.

ARE MEN MORE RELIGIOUS THAN WOMEN?

IN the *Sunday Strand* appears a symposium on this subject, which is certain to attract much attention. It turns upon some words used recently by the Rev. Silvester Horne in a sermon, to the effect that Dr. Johnson probably thought, as he did himself, "that men are more religious, deeply genuinely religious, than women." Two women and five men have been consulted as to this statement. In the discussion, "the Noes have it"—that is to say, more disagree with Mr. Horne than agree with him.

Mrs. Bramwell Booth argues that inasmuch as "in Christ Jesus there is neither male nor female," in the nature of the case she believes that men and women, taken as a whole, are equally religious.

Miss Jane T. Stoddart, assistant editor of the *British Weekly*, considers Mr. Horne's expressions "unfortunate," and that the comparative religiousness of men and women is a subject on which the wisest philosopher might refuse to dogmatise. "It belongs to the vast category of idle, useless, unprofitable inquiries." Mr. Horne may have meant that women have not such dark and profound religious experiences as men, but even this she thinks doubtfully true.

Sir Robert Anderson says, of course, that all depends on the definition of the word "religious." His forty years' life in London has convinced him that "incomparably the greatest, most successful, and most self-sacrificing philanthropic work is done by Evangelical Christians of the old-fashioned type." And, he adds, if this element be included in our definition of "religious," most people will probably agree that women excel

"Father" Adderley is disposed to think that men are more emotional than women in religious matters, and are less inclined to hypocrisy. On their death-beds, he thinks, men are more deeply religious.

Mr. F. A. Atkins, the editor of the *Young Man*, finds himself in entire agreement with Mr. Horne. A woman's religion, he considers, is often "very sentimental, very superficial, very selfish." "A woman's religion is something to enjoy, and a man's something to fight the devil with." Then he proceeds to an indictment of modern women who demand the advantages of marriage while shirking its duties and responsibilities. "Religious" women, he says, often discourage their husbands from Sunday work, and in the Passive Resistance movement many men had to endure the opposition of their wives as well as other trials.

Mr. W. T. Stead naturally deprecates all dogmatic utterances about ineradicable differences between men and women, and evidently agrees with Sir Robert Anderson as to women doing more self-sacrificing, philanthropic work than men.

Mr. C. B. Fry says that as men are mostly more subject to their heads than their hearts, and women more to their hearts than their heads, women are more disposed to be "religious in the Church sense" than men; but adds that "a genuinely religious man is in most cases more deeply religious than a genuinely religious woman."

The editorial comment remarks on none of the seven persons consulted having distantly referred to Christ's thought concerning women, as evidenced by His utterances to them.

AFRICA AND AMERICA TAKING TEA AT THE NORTH POLE.

MR. MATTHEW A. HENSON, negro assistant and only American companion of Rear-Admiral Peary at the North Pole, gives in the *World's Work* his account of the expedition. It will probably be long remembered by all negroes in East and West that the discovery of the North Pole was effected by one of their number side by side with a white man. Mr. Henson gives a very graphic account of the building of the igloo or snow-house in which they spent their nights. It took three of them only about an hour to make an igloo. In camping for the night, their first work was to make the igloo, then to feed the dogs, and next to make tea:—

> The making of tea in an Arctic temperature is a very simple matter—after you learn how. Each party was equipped with a "cooker" (an alcohol stove made in two sections, which fitted into each other). The first thing is to get the "water" for the tea. The snow is scraped off to a depth of from 12in. to 18in., and a chunk of ice cut out and put into the top section, called the "cooler." Its bottom is perforated so that the water will trickle down as the ice melts. We do not use the granulated snow, because the ice melts more quickly. The water is not salty for the simple reason that the surface ice is formed of snow which has melted and then frozen again.
>
> The boy puts six ounces of alcohol in the little stove and places it under the teapot. A piece of tissue-paper is twisted up into the form of a small wick and inserted in the alcohol. This is necessary because the alcohol will not vaporise in that temperature. After the fire is started and the alcohol begins to vaporise the paper wick is taken out.
>
> A can of frozen condensed milk is [chopped into two pieces, and one half is placed in the teapot, and on top of it is put one and a half tablets of compressed tea. It takes about ten minutes for the ice to melt, and the tea is then soon made.
>
> As soon as the tea is ready half a pound of pemmican and eight hard ship's biscuits are given to each man. There is no variation in the bill of fare—pemmican and biscuits and tea make up a menu as unvarying as that of a boarding-house.

He says:—

> The hoisting of the Flag was not the occasion of any riotous outburst of feeling. The Commander merely said in English: "We will plant the Stars and Stripes at the North Pole"—and the Stars and Stripes were planted. Speaking in the Eskimo language, I then proposed three cheers, and they were heartily given.
>
> As I stood there at the top of the world and thought of the hundreds of men who had lost their lives in the effort to reach it I felt profoundly grateful that I, as the personal attendant of the Commander, had the honour of representing my race in the historic achievement.

Vita Femminile Italiana contains an entertaining description of the Xenia Institute, an aristocratic girls' school at St. Petersburg, where the appointments are palatial and the instruction mainly domestic.

THE NEW DESPOTISM IN TURKEY.

THE first February number of *La Revue* opens with an article by General Cherif Pasha, on the Successors of Abdul Hamid.

THE PARTY OF UNION AND PROGRESS.

Though the Committee of Union and Progress was able to secure the adhesion of local political committees in certain provinces in European Turkey, the first movement of revolt against the absolutism of the *régime* of Abdul Hamid, says the writer, broke out in Asia Minor, where the Committee of Union and Progress played no part. But admitting that the party of Union and Progress had succeeded before all other parties, the revolution could not have taken place without the aid of their colleagues in the Liberal camp and the Turkish people. But the Committee in its jealous hostility characterised the Liberals as reactionaries, and showed an insulting defiance of the people, and it invented the fable of an *entente* between the two allies. The result was that, in order to defend itself against these imaginary enemies, the Committee transformed them into real enemies, and then began to govern in its own interests and against the interests of the people. Thus, under the pretext of protecting the people against the return of the despotism of the Sultan, the Committee became a despot itself and a worthy brother of its predecessor.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADANA MASSACRE.

Among the members of the Committee of Union and Progress a distinction should be made between those who really prepared the revolution and those who profited by it. The latter are the present directors of the Committee. Not content with their suspicions of the people as a whole, they are, by their methods of government, dividing them into Turks and non-Turks. After the proclamation of the Constitution, Turks, Armenians, and Greeks embraced one another in the streets of Pera, and Mussulmans, Christians, and Jews visited one another's mosques, churches, and synagogues. As a response to these effusions there appeared a series of articles in the *Tanine*, the official organ of the Committee, and Djahid Bey, the author of one of the most typical, was rewarded with a seat in the Chamber as Deputy for Constantinople. The Adana massacre of Armenians was also due to this article, for confidential consular reports have established the fact that the signal for murder was given by the Adana section of the Committee of Union and Progress, and the Armenian Patriarch was so convinced of the truth of the charge that he addressed to the instigators and to those really responsible for these atrocities strong expressions of indignation.

OTHER ACTS OF TYRANNY.

During the elections the Greeks complained of vexatious and unjust proceedings, and considered they were treated as enemies, and on all hands the silent discontent gradually transformed itself into active attack. Various journals criticised the actions of the Committee. Hassan Fehmi, who distinguished himself among the journalists of the opposition, was killed by a shot from a revolver by a man who has never been arrested, but who may be seen walking about quite freely in Constantinople. This murder was the signal for a revolt, and the people attempted to apply to the Committee the methods which had been used against the Sultan, but they failed for want of a leader. The soldiers also took part in this revolt, and the result has been division among the people and division in the army, to the great detriment of military discipline.

This meddling of the army in political affairs was really quite a scandal at the time when the Committee was doing its utmost to assure the fall of Kiamil Pasha. Kiamil was accused of accepting the resignation of Rizar Pasha, whose incapacity was notorious, and replacing him by Nazim Pasha, a valuable general and a liberal and independent man of perfect integrity. It is, in fact, no exaggeration to say that since April 13th of last year nothing is done in Turkey according to law and the Constitution. The fall of Kiamil Pasha is only one example of many acts of tyranny against the representatives of the people, Deputies or Ministers. Without speaking of the taxes and of the money collected under every pretext from various sources, many people are asking what has become of all the wealth of Yildiz.

AN OPPOSITION PARTY.

Meanwhile, an opposition party has come into existence, and if it has been slow to declare itself, we must remember the scandalous pressure to which the legislative elections had to submit, and which has been continued in the Chamber itself. On the other hand, with the abolition of the liberty of the Press, the people are only very imperfectly informed of what is taking place. It is not the title of Union and Progress which causes alarm, but the actions of the party, which show that the country has more need than ever of an integral and sincerely Liberal Administration. The liberty of the Press is necessary to denounce the perils threatening the Constitution, to establish the Constitution on a solid basis, and to protect it against the assaults of caprice and personal interest. Among further demands are freedom of meetings; the immediate suppression of martial courts, and the integral application of the constitutional laws; the modification of such civil and military reorganisations as show any favouritism, and the revision of cases summarily and illegally tried; the creation in the provinces of credit banks; the distribution of cultivable land to the poor population; respect of the constitutional rights of the sovereign, and a form of education which will help to bring about real fraternity among all Ottomans.

WRITING in the February number of the *Bookman*, Mr. Ashley Gibson deals with Mr. T. P. O'Connor as a man of letters.

A CONVERSATION WITH GEORGE MEREDITH

ON TENNYSON, SWINBURNE, OMAR KHAYYAM.

IN September, 1908, M. Constantin Photiadès paid a visit to George Meredith, and in the *Revue de Paris* of February 15th he gives the first part of his notes of Meredith's conversation.

As to journalists, said Meredith, a young author must either fly from them or manage them. He had never been able to pay court to them. In his old age, Browning did not neglect them, and Tennyson was a past-master in the art of provoking panegyrics and dithyrambics. There was a man of affairs! Tennyson made a fortune by literature. The traffickers in books capitulated before him. "In Memoriam" was a prodigious triumph. Tennyson has the very enviable honour and the miraculous privilege of having made our ugly monosyllabic language sing.

It is usual to go into ecstasies over the verbal imagination of Swinburne, Meredith continued. But another secret splendour which should be revealed to the public is his impetuous facility. Omar Khayyam is in vogue to-day, but the children of earth need more tonic and bracing nourishment! No matter! In 1859, when Meredith was with friends in the Isle of Wight, Swinburne approached them one afternoon brandishing a tablet, and began reciting in a loud voice the opening verses of FitzGerald's fine paraphrase of the Rubayyat, which he had just discovered. His enthusiasm won everybody, and the evening twilight overtook the party before the declamation was finished. After dinner Swinburne asked for writing materials, and in the presence of Meredith and his friends he composed "Laus Veneris," one of the most perfect poems in English literature.

"ONE OF OUR CONQUERORS."

M. Photiadès made an allusion to "One of Our Conquerors," and Meredith congratulated him on having ventured to read his most arduous book. It belongs to the category of "difficult works," he said, and he invited his visitor to consider it as a literary vengeance. At the beginning of his career Meredith noticed that nothing upset the critics so much as anything out of the common which required a little extra attention. About the sixties, when a small legacy assured him pecuniary independence, it pleased him to give these gentlemen a strong dose of his most indigestible production. He slyly presented them with "Diana of the Crossways" and the novels which followed it. But nothing made them so crazy as "One of Our Conquerors." The poor devils did not know which saint to call upon, or how to give an account of the cursed book. It was necessary before all things to understand it, and these blind men were groping about in their intense darkness.

A TRIBUNAL WITHOUT APPEAL.

Meredith asked whether his visitor had read X.'s book on his poems. X. had separated the poetry from the prose, but Meredith considered that his thoughts were as spontaneously united to both his prose and his poetry as his body was united to his intelligence and his soul. Ah well! Every critic has unconscious defects. X. decreed that Meredith the poet was less tiresome than Meredith the novelist. The critics condemn a weak rhyme, an obscure image; then they organise distributions of prizes, enumerate masterpieces, and classify them and comment on them. Do not implore their clemency! Three magistrates constitute a tribunal without appeal; their justice is expeditious and summary.

AN ILLUSTRIOUS UNKNOWN.

The Press had often treated him as a clown or harlequin, Meredith continued. Latterly he had been accorded a little glory, and his name is celebrated, though no one reads his works. As to his countrymen, he puts them to flight because he bores them. To foreigners he is an illustrious unknown. All his poems were published at his own expense. No one bought his books, and now bibliophiles purchase his first editions at twenty or twenty-five guineas. Formerly they would gladly have stifled his voice. He was then excessively poor. When the legacy came he continued to write, notwithstanding the general indifference, and certain periodicals, notably *Scribner's Magazine*, paid him very liberally for his contributions.

ODES TO FRANCE.

Meredith constantly expressed his veneration for France. French landscape and French art enchanted him. French literature also interested him deeply, especially the writings of Anatole France. He had great sympathy with the Félibrige of Provence, and he translated into English some lines of Mistral's "Mireille" in "A Reading of Life." He regretted that he had only consecrated to the glory of France a collection of Odes. The piece entitled "France, December, 1870," might be the most successful and the most perfect of them, but in the "Ode to Napoleon" he flattered himself that he had grasped the character of Napoleon and had shown that his genius was an absolute antithesis to the traditional genius of France. Meredith was still burning to serve France. "Perfidious Albion" the French call us; it is unjust.

SOCIETY AND SOLITUDE.

Solitude, Meredith said, was an old friend. Newspapers and books were society to him. He was much upset by the death of Sarasate. Formerly he used to attend assiduously the concerts of Sarasate and Joachim, and the prowess of these virtuosi of the violin enchanted him. His growing deafness, he admitted, was a sad infirmity. To be read or not to be read did not disturb his quietude. At eighty an author's fate is what he has deserved, but his work belonged to the world. He never refused to allow them to be translated, fearing that the translators were in pressing need of money.

THE AMERICAN WOMAN'S LEAGUE.

THE LATEST TRIUMPH OF AMERICAN JOURNALISM.

MR. SAINT NEHAL SINGH describes in the *Modern Review* for February the marvellous achievement of Mr. Lewis, of St. Louis, founder of the *Woman's Magazine*. Starting nine years ago with ten shillings in his pocket, he has built up a unique series of periodical publications with a reported circulation of ten millions a month. He is now a multi-millionaire. This *Woman's Magazine* has all its advertising space booked twelve months ahead at £1,500 per page per month. As it has sixteen pages of advertisements every number to sixteen pages of reading matter, the revenue is adequate :—

THE LEWIS PUBLICATIONS.

Mr. Lewis has bought an evening newspaper in St. Louis, and conducts another paper, the *Woman's National Daily*, as well as several other monthly magazines besides the *Woman's Magazine* and the *Woman's Farm Journal*. *Beautiful Homes* is the latest addition to his battery of publications. From 10,000 to 20,000 letters are received daily by the big publishing house. Over 500 employees are required to look after the details of this immense business. These employees handle over 2,000,000 subscriptions a month, and it is necessary to make 20,000 changes in addresses each month in order to keep the mailing list up to date.

THE LEWIS MAIL ORDER BANK.

Women and men readers residing in the country, and lacking the facilities afforded by savings banks, began to send the editor various sums of money with the request that he keep it for them. These amounts began to accumulate, and Mr. Lewis started a Mail Order Bank in order to transact business with his clients by means of the mail. This bank cut into the profits of the United States Express Trust, and this corporation did all it could to crush Mr. Lewis, but he overcame this opposition, and to-day this Mail Order Bank is serving thousands of out of town customers.

THE AMERICAN WOMAN'S LEAGUE.

The American Woman's League, which Mr. Lewis has organised, is a national organisation composed of women as full members and men as honorary members, banded together for their mutual benefit, protection, service, advancement, education and assurance against adversity or distress. It is not a secret society. It is not a charity. It is simply a co-operative business organisation founded on safe, sound and conservative principles. Full membership in the League may be secured by any reputable woman of the white race. There is no fee, and membership is for life.

THE CORRESPONDENCE UNIVERSITY.

A University Art and Correspondence School gives courses of instruction in every branch of learning, the trades and professions from the most elementary to the highest being taught by mail, so as to be accessible to every member, and the minor children of her family, free of charge. There are also finishing schools at University City for the personal attendance and instruction of those students who complete the correspondence courses and show unusual aptitude and ability. Six buildings are devoted to the work of the Correspondence University. Annual scholarships of £180 are given to the most proficient students in order that they may take a post-graduate course at University City.

THE CHAPTERS OF THE LEAGUE.

There are seven hundred Chapters of the League scattered all over the country :—

Each Chapter of the League is furnished with a free circulating musical library, each Chapter being provided with the finest obtainable concert grand phonographic instrument, and receiving each week from thirty to fifty of the best musical records, these records circulating from Chapter to Chapter. A weekly lecture course is also part of the plan, the services of the best lecturers being arranged for so that these lecturers will follow the circuit of the Chapters, delivering their lectures in succession to each Chapter. Another feature of the League is a postal library, whose books are sent through the mails free of charge. A National Woman's Exchange is maintained, branches in every town providing an organised national market to supply the members' needs and to give an outlet to each member for the sale of her handiwork.

HOW THE CIRCULATION IS SECURED.

American magazines usually spend the whole of their receipts from subscriptions in obtaining subscribers. Mr. Lewis has cut down his cost by 50 per cent. :—

He conceived the idea of utilising and co-operating with the women's clubs, societies and organisations throughout America. Wherever a given number of women become members of the League, through the simple requirement of securing £15 in subscriptions to any or all of the publications concerned, a permanent local Chapter House, beautiful in design, costly in construction and equipment, is immediately erected. These Chapter Houses are the property of the League organisation itself, but their use is free to all the Chapter members. In connection with this national organisation is the Central organisation at St. Louis. Each local Chapter receives as an income for the maintenance of its Chapter House 25 per cent. of the entire subscription revenue of all publications in the plan from its jurisdiction. The League itself receives 50 per cent. of the gross subscription income, both new and renewal, of the united publications.

FIFTY THOUSAND STUDENTS IN TOKIO.

IN the *Japan Magazine* for February Mr. A. W. Medley describes student life in Tokio. He reckons that there must be at least fifty thousand students in Tokio, assembled from all parts of the Empire, and studying a multitude of subjects. There is one private institution where English alone is taught, which has eight thousand students. The writer says:—

The Government language school is a peculiarly attractive one. It is a veritable babel of languages, for in it are taught English, French, German, Russian, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, Korean, Tamil, Hindustani, Malay, and Mongolian, and for each tongue a foreign teacher is engaged. In the professors' common room can be found a mixture of nationalities such as would seem to foreshadow the federation of the world. It is at any rate a Parliament of nations.

Bearded Slavs, dapper Frenchmen, stolid Germans, voluble and gesticulating Italians—a constant source of wonder to the Japanese—dignified Spaniards, correct Englishmen, big Chinese with their peculiar Chinese pride, vacant-looking Koreans, a Mongolian Lama priest, revolutionary Hindus, a Malay Mahometan full of proselytising fervour, and finally innumerable Japanese all rub shoulders together and get on somehow.

The students are mostly poor, because the people as a whole are bent on education. The writer mentions an up-country inn, the landlord of which told him that his son and daughter were being educated in England, the son at Birmingham University, the girl at a Hampstead school. The student's life is one of almost continuous work. At the language school he must attend thirty hours of lectures every week. The writer thinks that thus originality is killed, and the men degenerate into mere note-takers. Nevertheless, they find reaction and recreation in amusements. "Young Japan is baseball mad."

IS LORD MORLEY A PERSECUTOR?

THE PLAINT OF THE ARYA SAMAJ.

THE *Vedic Magazine*, published at Hardwar, makes a piteous plaint concerning the persecution which it asserts is raging against the members of the Arya Samaj under the ægis of Lord Morley. Eighty-four brave Arya Samajes are said to be languishing in gaol, by an order of Lord Kitchener. It is circulated in all regiments that no Arya is to be allowed to enter the precincts of regimental barracks.

The *Modern Review* for February says :—

The Arya Samaj is a body of religious and social reformers actively interested in educational and philanthropic movements. Even if there be some seditious or criminal persons among them, that cannot affect the character of the body as a whole. At present that is the only considerable community in the Punjab which has the right stuff in it. Even if a body be primarily political, that fact does not necessarily make it seditious.

That is the *Modern Review's* opinion, but Anglo-Indians appear to make no distinction between what is political and what is seditious.

The Arya Samaj is not primarily political. It is primarily religious :—

After a most successful struggle with the orthodox Pandits, Swami Dayanand Saraswati, for that was the name of the great Reformer and Revivalist, established the first Arya Samaj at Bombay in 1875, to restore the ancient Vedic Dharama and as a strong protest against the latter day Hinduism and other religions.

His representatives at the present day fiercely denounce all violence. Their leader declares that he has "come to the conclusion that for a century at least the continuance of British Raj was essential to the peaceful progress and orderly development of the country."

In the current number of the *Vedic Magazine*, which publishes Mahatma Munshi Ram's discourse on "The Present Situation and Our Duty," we read :—

I hold no brief for real seditionists. If there be any in the Arya Samaj who preaches political assassination and murder, which are sins of the deepest dye, pick him out and torture him to death if you will. He is no Arya. If there be any whose aim it be to subvert the Government, punish him.

Why should these innocent Vedantists be persecuted? Perhaps Lord Morley can explain.

While the British officials are persecuting the Arya Samaj, Count Tolstoi has written to the editor of the *Vedic Magazine*—which, he says, he reads always with great interest—asking for his assistance. Count Tolstoi says :—

You would be very kind if you consented to help me with a work which I have lately begun, and which, I hope, can be of some interest to you. I have begun a series of expositions of all the great religions of the world, the essence of which is always one and the same for all. Naturally the Vedic religion, as one of the most ancient and profound, must take in these series the first place. I wish to make a selection of the most striking and profound sentences of the Vedic religion. If you, or some of your contributors, can and will help me in this matter by corresponding with me on the subject, I will be very thankful.

Commenting on the letter, the editor of the *Vedic Magazine* says :—

Count Leo Tolstoi, the great Rishi and sage of Europe, is one of those living Mahatmas who are pillars of light for humanity and for whom we cherish the greatest reverence and the deepest veneration. His works have always been an unfailing source of inspiration to us, and we have all along believed that Tolstoi, though a European, is the greatest living embodiment of Oriental Brahmanhood. His novel "Resurrection," which some Pharisees regard an "immoral" book, has changed the whole current of our life. Whoever feels irrepressible yearnings for the higher life, and though "weak, faulty, or misguided," is touched by "an inspiration towards goodness," must needs read this book.

The persecution of the Arya Samaj strikes me as a somewhat serious business. Of course, as the Arya Samaj is a protest against the corruption of Hindu, Moslem and other religions, every man's hand is against them. But for the British Government, which is pledged to religious neutrality, and especially for Lord Morley, who is superior to superstitious prejudices, to persecute such religious reformers does, I confess, seem to me quite inexplicable.

WHAT THE CONGO REFORMERS WANT NOW.

MR. E. D. MOREL is very well pleased with what the Congo Reform Association has already secured; but, like Oliver Twist, his cry is still for more. The half-crown official organ of the Congo Reform Association for January surveys the field, congratulates the Association on the work already accomplished, and sets out clearly what is still to be achieved. I have not room for all their demands, but the following is Mr. Morel's exposition of what the Congo needs to-day :—

A grant-in-aid of, at least, £700,000 a year for some years to come for purely internal administrative purposes.

The inauguration of a reconstructive *native policy* on the lines adopted, let us say, in Southern Nigeria.

Recognition of native tribal and communal rights in land. Only in one part of the Congo have the Belgians any need to elaborate a land system at present, and that is in Katanga, where questions of European settlement, farming, etc., will arise more frequently.

The complete cessation of the "labour-tax" as expressed in produce extorted for revenue purposes.

Re-introduction of free commercial dealings between the natives and merchants of all nationalities throughout the whole Congo by July 1st, 1910.

Every possible encouragement given to merchants, Belgian and other, to enter the Congo and trade with the natives.

Suppression of forced levies of labour for public works, to be replaced by free labour properly paid . . . A reduction in the native army; a properly organised force of 7,500 men, well in hand, being amply sufficient for all purposes of a normal administration to police the Congo.

These are the main lines which genuine reform would take on the Congo. The whole scheme—any scheme—depends upon a grant-in-aid; without it no real reform is conceivable. If Belgium were unable to make the sacrifice (every Belgian *pronunciamiento* insists upon the prosperity of the "rich" Motherland) the Powers which recognised the flag of the International Association, the signatory Powers of the Berlin Act, the Powers guarantors of Belgian independence and neutrality in Europe, ought to help Belgium to foot the bill.

WHY THE PRESS HAS LOST ITS POWER.

By an American Observer.

Mr. Francis E. Leupp contributes to the *Atlantic Monthly* for February a very suggestive paper on "The Waning Power of the Press." Quoting the conclusion arrived at by the recently-elected Mayor of New York, that in this common-sense generation nobody cares what the newspapers say, Mr. Leupp admits that as a direct influence the Press has lost its power, while as an indirect influence it still is potent for good or for evil.

WHY THIS CHANGE?

Mr. Leupp says:—

I should list the causes for this change about as follows: the transfer of both properties and policies from personal to impersonal control; the rise of the cheap magazine; the tendency to specialisation in all forms of public instruction; the fierceness of competition in the newspaper business; the demand for larger capital, unsettling the former equipoise between counting-room and editorial room; the invasion of newspaper offices by the universal mania of hurry; the development of the news-getting at the expense of the news-interpreting function; the tendency to remould narratives of fact so as to confirm office-made policies; the growing disregard of decency in the choice of news to be specially exploited; and the scant time now spared by men of the world for reading journals of general intelligence.

THE MAGAZINE AND THE NEWSPAPER.

As the direct influence of the daily press has declined, the influence of the magazine has increased. Mr. Leupp attributes this largely to the fact that the newspaper had lost the element of personality:—

The importance of a responsible personality finds further confirmation in the evolution of the modern magazine, which began to take on a new character about twenty years ago. While preserving its distinct identity and its originality, it leaped boldly into the newspaper arena, and sought its topics in the happenings of the day, regardless of their evanescence. It raised a corps of men and women who might otherwise have toiled in obscurity all their lives, and gave them a chance to become authorities on questions of immediate interest, till they are now recognised as constituting a limited but highly specialised profession.

What was the result? The public following which the newspaper editors used to command when they did business in the open, but which was falling away from their anonymous successors, attached itself promptly to the magazinists.

If any anonymous editor ventured to question the infallibility of one of these prophets of the magazine world, the common multitude wasted no thought on the merits of the issue, but sided at once with the teacher whom they knew at least by name, against the critic whom they knew not at all.

FIVE MINUTES FOR A DAILY PAPER.

American newspapers publish enough matter every day to keep a diligent reader going for hours if he read it all. But how many readers really read newspapers? Mr. Leupp records

the result of an inquiry into the reading habits of two thousand representative business and professional men in a typical American city. Among other things, he discovered that most of them spent not to exceed fifteen minutes a day on their newspapers. As some spent less, and some divided the time between two or three papers, the average period devoted to any one paper could safely be placed at from five to ten minutes. The admitted practice of most of the group was to look at the headlines, the table of contents, and the weather reports, and then apparently at some speciality in which they were individually interested. The editorial articles seem to have offered them few attractions, but news items of one sort or another engaged seventy-five per cent. of their attention.

The whole article is well worth careful perusal—especially by journalists.

TRIUMPHANT CRIME IN AMERICA.

A Sequel of "Triumphant Democracy."

Mr. H. C. Weir, an American writer, brings against American civilisation in *The World To-day* a terrible picture of the triumph of crime in the United States. His paper is a grim confirmation of what ex-President White, of Cornell, has been saying concerning the increase of murder in America. Mr. Weir says the United States citizens are murdered at the rate of 200 per week, nearly thirty per day, and that crime costs the Republic £275,000,000 per annum, or £700,000 per day.

CRIME SHELTERED BY CORRUPTION.

Mr. Weir says:—

The police administration of the average American city is so thoroughly entrenched behind the menacing power of the corrupted ballot that it can literally snap its fingers at any law that would set itself above it.

Do you know that 75 per cent. of the criminals who are arrested for petty larceny, pocket-picking, hold-ups, and the like from the red-light districts of New York are freed by the ward politicians?

He charges the police with practising torture on their prisoners, who in vain seek redress.

THE IMPOTENCE OF THE POLICE.

The breakdown of the official guardians of law and order has led to voluntary organisations for the detection of crime. Mr. Weir says:—

A number of years ago the jewellers of America were forced to form a national detective organisation to guard their property. The bankers of America have done likewise. So have the hotel-keepers. So have the railroads. They could not depend on the public police. It was cheaper to maintain a police system of their own. Will the people of America also be forced to employ private watchmen?

IMPUNITY FOR MURDERERS.

Mr. Weir says:—

Ten thousand persons are murdered in this country every year—shot, strangled, poisoned, stabbed, or beaten with a club or a sand-bag. Of the murderers, two in every hundred are punished. The remaining ninety-eight escape—absolutely free! In many of our States, the proportion of convictions is only half as great.

In 95 per cent. of the homicides of Germany, the guilty person is brought to justice. In Spain, the number of convictions is 85 per cent. of the total number of crimes. In France, it is 61 per cent.; in Italy, 77 per cent.; in England, 50 per cent. Do these facts—when offset against our two convictions in every hundred murders—explain why our lawlessness is increasing; why we have more homicides every year than Italy, Austria, France, Belgium, England, Ireland, Scotland, Spain, Hungary, Holland, and Germany combined?

IS RUSSIA A CRIMINAL LUNATIC ASYLUM?

YES. BY R. C. LONG.

MR. R. C. LONG contributes to the *Fortnightly Review* for March an appalling article entitled "Peder Ahkadievitch Stolypin," the net effect of reading which is to leave on the mind a horrible impression that Russia is a lunatic asylum policed by criminals. Mr. Long is a brilliantly clever Irishman, who speaks and reads Russian, and he has married a Russian wife. In all these respects he resembles Dr. E. J. Dillon, who preceded him, thirty years ago, in painting Russia in the most gruesome colours. I have the same difficulty with Mr. Long's article as I had with the "E. B. Lanin" articles. If Russia were really as rotten, as corrupt, as inept, as lunatic, and as criminal as Lanin and Long paint her, I do not see how society could hold together. But, without further preamble, let us get to Mr. Long's article.

STOLYPIN.

Mr. Long says that Stolypin has now been altogether captured by the Reactionists, who, having accomplished the task of destroying the Constitution of 1905, may at any moment be cast on one side like an old glove. Stolypin, says Mr. Long, is Slav by origin, honestly believing in the future of the great Russian race, but hating and despising Finns, Poles, Jews and Germans so much that he hardly distinguishes which is which :—

For this six-foot, broad-shouldered, presentable, black-haired, black-bearded man, with the Tartar-button-eyes, and dry, barking voice, had a properly authoritative way in handling newspapers. There was, too, a pleasant faith in himself, shown when he met the first two quarrelsome Dumas, which led the simple to think that Russia had now a master. On a people weary of the shiftings and velleities of M. Witte, and the maskless turpitudes of M. Peter Durnovo, the loud-barked sentences, "You will not frighten us!"; "I shall stand no disorder!"; "I am invested with the Plenitude of Power," had a properly calming effect. That the Minister was a man of no general culture, experienced only in police-things, caused naturally no dismay.

SOME INTERESTING DEFINITIONS.

According to Mr. Long, all Russians are divided by M. Stolypin into two classes—the Sound and the Unsound. Stolypin represents the Plenitude of Power. The Spheres are the misty, nameless Olympians of Tsarskoe Selo :—

"We want first citizens, and then civic conditions," he says. By "citizen," naturally, the Premier does not mean a man with civic rights and duties, living in reasonable liberty, choosing and respecting his rulers, and respected by them in return. To him the citizen is an economic concept; in short, "a peasant proprietor, a small farmer," who shall live in unlettered abundance, be soundly beaten when he needs it, and be taxed and paternally protected by an omnipotent State as aphides by ants.

The Soyuz Russkavo Naroda, as the Black Hundred is called, "is an organisation of the dangerous classes of the great cities which compounds for offences against the criminal law by posing as the sole remaining stay of the Autocracy."

THE FOUR LEGS OF THE DUMA HORSE.

Of the four legs of the Duma horse, without which it is not a horse but only a helpless trunk, none have been forthcoming. Mr. Long says :—

Religious liberty is thrown overboard because, says the Premier, for the sake of a dry theory incomprehensible to Russians the Tsar will not let renegades go unpunished. The law protecting the person of the subject has lain two years in commissions, because the Duma cannot make up its mind, and because The Spheres can. Freedom of speech is happily guarded by the methods of M. Plehve, tempered occasionally by the anarchic lack of system of his pupil. For even in the capital, the Prefect defies the Premier as to what may not be said. After four years of waiting, the right of association is regulated by M. Witte's "temporary rules"; and though these rules allow all associations with lawful aims, it appears that the only association universally registered and protected is ostentatiously lawless (the Black Hundred to wit).

THE DUMA.

M. Homiakoff, President of the Third Duma, has recently declared that "the Duma has no more faith in accomplishing its task." It is choked with trumpery local bills :—

The third session had before it 440 Government Bills, of which not one was in any way more important, or more enlightened, than the thousand odd projects which lay unpassed for decades of the nineteenth century before the somnolent Council of State. Only one Act of even second-rate importance received the Tsar's consent, and this, a measure providing for conditional release of offenders, has not been put into force, because the Minister of Justice, quite as in days of old, has found it necessary to submit it to a commission "explaining" it out of existence.

Of the projects to realise the various liberties of the October Manifesto not one has become law.

MINISTERIAL PARALYSIS.

Ministers do no work, and M. Stolypin does too much :—

The Foreign Minister's levity and idleness have long occupied the newspapers, which print complaints that despatches lie unanswered, and scores of officials, withdrawn from all quarters of Europe, wait in vain for orders while the *petit maître* Minister fusses over the decoration of his official flat.

But M. Stolypin does everything :—

The labours of this indefatigable man are great. Untired by driving alone the ponderous engine of repression; fighting—and fleeing from—defiant underlings; planning most comprehensive persecution of Finns and Poles, and aliens and heretics generally; launching month after month fresh *ukazi*, *pravila*, and *riasiasnienija*, against the impertinent Duma; the Premier finds time to meddle in all the special departments, and free from vulgar fear of responsibility, will revise the plans of a battleship or an edition of the annals of Nestor with equal faith.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Long says that the Russia Admiralty is called the Ministry of Tsushimas :—

Nowhere does sleeping so regularly alternate with stealing as here. The Premier promised to put an end to both. But when he asked the Duma to sanction the building of four *Dreadnughts*, which were to cost some £11,200,000, he was told that the promise was broken; and his airy personal undertaking to build the *Ganguts* in four years was received with smiles. However, never does patriotism fiercer rage than in sight of £11,200,000; and the *Dreadnoughts*, in defiance of the Duma, were laid down with the usual prelibations of victory on the second anniversary of the decree abolishing the Constitution of 1905. Then everything went wrong. In six months only 200,000 lb. of metal had been worked into the keels; the draw-

ings either did not exist or were worthless; the armour for even one ship would take ten years to supply; and prying persons discovered that the State was to be done out of £2,000,000. With this last revelation the naval enthusiasm subsided.

A GRUESOME INCIDENT.

Mr. Long says that the Plenitude of Power is either legally delegated to, or forcibly taken by, every governor, governor-general, prefect, Polizeimeister, and rural chief. Of this official documents daily yield fresh evidence. In April, 1908, a police-officer named Slepak, having arrived drunk in the German colony, Mariinsk, ran amok through the main street bawling: "Find me a woman; a fat, pretty German woman!" On the unsound peasants refusing, M. Slepak drew his sword, laid about him, injuring several persons, and, discovering his ideal of fatness and beauty, showed such excessive appreciation that sixteen outraged peasants disarmed him, thrashed him insufficiently, and locked him up. When he awoke, sobered, he denounced the village for "rebellion"; and in accordance with custom the sixteen peasants were brought before court-martial and one and all condemned to death. The commander of local troops whose business it was to confirm the sentence judged it unduly rigorous, and changed it to fourteen days' imprisonment. It is as easy to quote many converse cases of Plenitude, such as the case of General Hoerschelmann, who forced a court-martial to hang men who, he considered, had been let off too easily with imprisonment. With the truthful excuse that "the discussion agitates the public," the central and local Plenitudes forbid the newspapers to touch the more outrageous scandals, and even fine or imprison editors for unveiling robbery protected by The Spheres.

PANDEMONIUM.

After giving many other instances of crime in high places, of criminals unpunished, of newspapers suppressed and editors imprisoned, Mr. Long says:—

Despite these excesses of repression, the chaos which reigns in every department of the State reigns here too. The Anarchist *Sayuz* newspapers daily incite to murder and massacre of the reformers. The State admits one serious interest, the maintenance of the Autocracy, compared with which national defence and international relations are of no account. It is for this reason that the Abazas and Besobrasoffs who made the war with Japan are still unpunished; that the Stoessels and Nebogatoffs have been pardoned; while the late Chief of Police, Lopukhin, for exposing the Government's bomb-plots, is still in Siberia; and the members of the Second Duma lately walked through the streets of St. Petersburg in chains.

If these things be true, the Autarchy may, as Mr. Long says, have triumphed for the moment. But at what a cost, and how terrible will be the day of reckoning!

IN OLD MADRID.

SR. CARLOS CAMBRONERO relates in *España Moderna* some curious facts concerning life in Madrid in olden times. Laws and regulations, he says in effect, convey an idea of the customs, habits, and morals of the people for whose benefit they are promulgated, and he proceeds to give instances.

In 1647 Don Phillip IV. said Madrid had an excessive number of drinking saloons, and there is no doubt in the seventeenth century there were more wine-shops, or taverns, in Madrid than was good for the welfare of the people. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the number seems to have increased in proportion to the increase of population. The Order of 1647 was intended to prevent this increase, and recommended greater care in the granting of licences, etc. During the last few years of the eighteenth century the following curious regulation was published and had to be affixed in a conspicuous position in every establishment:—

Every tavern (or wine-shop) should pay two reales daily to the Royal Arbiter, and alms (which were not specified) to the College of San Nicolas de Bari. Tavern-keepers should not allow games of dice, cards, or the like.

By the prohibition of games it is to be presumed gambling was carried on, and after this regulation certain precautions had to be taken by those who desired to amuse themselves in that way. Perhaps for this reason curtains were forbidden in these establishments, so as to afford from the street a clear view of what was going on inside. In working hours no artisan, official, or apprentice was allowed to enter a tavern, much less women or children; but it was easy to evade the vigilance of the authorities, as there were so many taverns. An unmarried tavern-keeper was not allowed to employ a cook or barmaid under forty years of age. Taverns were not permitted to have doors opening on two streets, or an outlet into the garden (patio); from the 1st October to the end of April they had to close at ten p.m., and from the 1st May to the end of September at eleven p.m. From the foregoing, which are by no means all the regulations imposed from the time of Phillip III. to Charles IV., there is no doubt the authorities endeavoured to maintain order, hygiene, and morality with respect to taverns and their keepers.

In the time of Don Carlos III. it appears that certain women who bought and sold tallow at private houses, for the making of candles, did not behave themselves in a desirable manner, and the Mayor, with that paternal solicitude that characterised the authorities of that period, published on December 1st, 1787, the following regulation:—

From January 7th, 1788, all girls and married women must discontinue the occupation of selling and buying tallow in the houses and streets, and in the meantime they must apply themselves to learning an industry or occupation suitable to their sex and of a more desirable nature.

The regulations allowed only four tallow sellers in each of the eight districts into which the city was divided; these had to be married or widows, of not less than forty years, and they were not allowed to trade outside their own district. The tallow had to be carried in open baskets, and if they were found with candles, meat, bacon, oil, peas, or any other kind of provisions in the baskets, they had to pay a fine of two ducats and the articles were confiscated.

The writer gives instances of certain laws about the use of capes and three-cornered hats, and on March 15th, 1790, a Royal Decree was issued, forbidding teachers of dancing to allow pupils of both sexes to be taught in their houses at the same time; females were to be taught in the morning and males in the evening, and on no account were females to go at night time.

THE MEXICO NATIONAL MUSEUM.

THE *Bulletin of the International Bureau of the American Republics* contains a brief article on the National Museum of Mexico, to which serious attention has only been paid during about ten years, but which yet, Mexico being one of the richest countries in archæological remains, contains many highly curious and interesting relics the like of which can hardly be

A Sacrificial Stone in the Mexico Museum.

seen elsewhere. These relics are mostly of Aztec civilisation, weird images of Aztec goddesses and gods, carved in stone; sacrificial stones, monoliths, etc., of some of which very interesting pictures are reproduced. The Mexican National Museum is now put on a proper basis, 8,400 dollars being allotted annually to its upkeep. It is in charge of Lic. Genaro Garcia, a notable historian and archæologist, who will without doubt see to the proper classification and arrangements of the treasures within it.

A CLAIRVOYANT'S DISCOVERY OF A GOLD MINE.

IN "Romances of Rossland," which Harold Sands contributes to the *Canadian Magazine* for February, he tells some wonderful stories about the gold mines in that part of British Columbia. Speaking of the mine known as Le Roi, he says:—

The story goes that they found the mine because they followed the advice of a clairvoyant. This woman lived at Colville, Washington. A party of four, including her husband and son, decided to go on a prospecting trip. Wishing to know where to go, they induced the woman to go into a trance and give them instructions. On emerging from the trance, the clairvoyant made a chart. On it she showed the trail to the Columbia River; thence as far as the mouth of Trail Creek, and finally to Red Mountain.

"There," she said, "is a mountain of gold."

Time has proved her to be correct, but the party she advised did not benefit by her trance. True they followed her instructions, reached Red Mountain and dug into many croppings, but they found nothing to reward their efforts. Ore had to be rich in those days to pay for the cost of getting it out, shipping it and treatment. The party persevered for five or six weeks, then, finding no free gold, went away in disgust, not even taking with them samples of ore for assay.

That was in 1884. The report of that disgusted party of prospectors gave the old lady of Colville a set-back as a clairvoyant. And yet, since her day, over 40,000,000 dollars has been taken out of her "mountain of gold."

When the Le Roi mine was "down on its luck," a miner went down to Moscow, Idaho, and explained to a friend, Maurice Yenzel, in 1892, that he had "just come down from Rossland, broke." He had got 2,000 shares in the Le Roi. "Give me a suit of clothes and a meal, and they are yours." The bargain was completed, and by 1897 Yenzel had received in dividends and from the sale of the stock the sum of 60,000 dollars; which was a considerably high price for a suit of clothes.

THE ACTIVITY OF SHIPBREAKERS.

IN the February *Financial Review of Reviews* Mr. Benjamin Taylor, while giving a hopeful account of the iron and shipbuilding industry, in which he expects that the revival of 1910 will be as remarkable as the slump of 1908 was unprecedented, deals with one phase of the industry which is significant:—

The recent sale of four old Cunard steamers to shipbreakers directs attention to a movement in the shipping trade. The disposal of these old Cunarders to be broken up is in keeping with the present tendency. The sales of old shipping during 1909 increased a proportion of vessels to be broken up much above the yearly average. Never has there been such activity among shipbreakers as at present. This fact is significant. Shipowners are getting rid of obsolete tonnage in a way best calculated to serve the interests of the freight market, and there is evidently a growing demand for old iron which shipbreakers find it profitable to satisfy. Thus, by breaking up old ships, instead of selling them to foreign buyers, as formerly, we are at once relieving the market of superfluous tonnage and supplying fresh raw material to be used in the shipbuilding revival which is beginning. Old vessels, instead of being sold to foreigners at breaking-up prices, are now being actually demolished and converted into iron, for which there is a legitimate demand. The vessels do not, as formerly, come back or continue to compete with British shipping.

The Bibliography of Geography.

THE "Annual Bibliography of Geography," published in connection with the *Annales de Géographie*, has now reached its eighteenth volume. It deals with the year 1908, and forms a comprehensive and invaluable work of reference to the geographical publications—books, articles, etc.—of the year. The first part of the book is devoted to general works, while the second and greater part gives the publications relating to special continents and countries, all carefully classified. M. Louis Raveneau, under whose direction the compilation is prepared, and his many associates are to be congratulated on the excellence of their work. (Librairie Armand Collin, Paris. Pp. 336. 5 francs.)

LORD ROSEBERY, as the patron of the Turf, is the leading Character Sketch in *Badminton*. The writer is Mr. A. E. T. Watson.

THE PARIS CALAMITY.

A HIGH TRIBUTE TO THE FRENCH RACE.

IN the mid-February number of *La Revue* M. Jean Finot, the author of "The Prejudice of Races," pays a high tribute to the spirit of the French race.

AFTER SEDAN.

Entitled "After the Inundation," M. Finot writes that too much has been said of the decadence of France; it is time to speak of her splendour. After Sedan France was looked upon as irremediably lost; her fate seemed to be in the hands of the Germans. What did Europe do? Sadly surprised, indignant, or indifferent, but always inactive, events were allowed to take their course. But an invincible power rose on the horizon. Battalions were formed, and into them was breathed a force of heroic resistance. Where there was nothing, courageous soldiers and improvised chiefs suddenly appeared, and France was saved. What was this power? It was the awakened soul of France.

A CHORUS OF HOMAGE.

Much has been written about the soul of the French people, but most of the homage has been paid to the past. Regrettable misunderstandings seem to divide the civilised world and the French genius of our day. Foreigners give too much heed to the diatribes of the press, and the charges of "realism" brought against French literature, but these misunderstandings have in no wise changed the character of the French. Now that a great calamity has fallen on the country, adversity offers a suitable opportunity to judge of the true value of the French spirit. Certain qualities lying dormant and hidden from view have come out in surprising force, and the entire civilised world has been compelled to speak with respect of France and the French. At last it is recognised that the decadence of civic virtues, and the lack of courage, perseverance, and energy, were simply coarse insults directed against a great people and a unique city. In this concert of universal homage there has not been a discordant note. The German press in particular has understood the greatness and the nobility of French endeavour. Dr. Max Nordau, that severe moralist, refers to the French as possessing not only a very high civilisation but a very high moral value; foreigners may have quitted the capital, but not a single Parisian has been guilty of desertion in such a time of danger.

BRAVERY AND SELF-SACRIFICE.

M. Finot records many touching incidents of the bravery and self-sacrifice of the people. Also the wealthier classes have not failed to transform their houses into hospitals and places of refuge. The women have shown admirable abnegation, intelligence, and calmness, and the three Red Cross Societies while working separately have also been able to harmonise their work. Altogether, such wonders have been achieved that one might think the scourge was a constant enemy. The authorities were equal to the occasion, and there was a unity of plan, a rare cohesion both in the fight against the inundation and afterwards in dealing with the consequences. Such fraternity and solidarity of a whole people, seconded by the conscious efforts of a Will from above, surely forms a bundle of admirable elements to conjure with in any danger.

THE FRATERNITY OF NATIONS A REALITY.

Such a calamity is almost as bad as an invasion by an enemy, for Nature can be as cruel as man; and her blows are the heavier because they come unexpectedly. The movement of generosity which has now spread over the world will at any rate help to purify international relations. Thanks to France, people have learnt that the fraternity of nations is not an idle word. At a meeting at which the acceptance of foreign relief was discussed, one man in authority suggested that France was rich enough to repair the damage, but the whole assembly unanimously protested. Why not leave free course to the sentiments of solidarity in the world? and why should not France experience something of the slumbering affection for her outside her country? It has had another remarkable result. Many Frenchmen have lost some of their prejudices against foreigners. It is always pleasant to learn amiable things, and it is to be noted that Europe has chosen, like Meredith, the moment of French misfortune to tell France that she has indeed come out of her great civic trial with great honour. Self-confidence is as necessary to nations as to individuals. France has just acquired hers at a great sacrifice, but she will be consoled when she remembers that no price could be too high to pay for the consciousness of her proper worth.

RUY BARBOSA.

THE first February issue of *La Revue* contains an article on Ruy Barbosa as a Contemporary Brazilian Writer. Oliveira Lima, the writer, says that Ruy Barbosa is intellectually the most gifted man in Brazil to-day. His talents are as varied as his personality is complex, for he is a journalist, an orator, a philologian, a politician, and many other things, and each in a superior degree. His prestige is incomparable, and his erudition astonishing. At the last Hague Conference the promptitude of his intelligence awakened at first surprise, but in the end everyone marvelled. His only fault as an author is that he is not sufficiently concise. His brain is too full of ideas for that, and he does not want to omit a single item from his subject. All his life he has been an orator as much as a writer. Of English writers he admires none more than Carlyle, with whom his imagination and even his style have several points of contact. The sensation arising from a perusal of all Barbosa's work, written or spoken, is one of overwhelming vigour. The guiding power of his life as a thinker, writer, orator, and statesman has been the idea of liberty.

OH, WICKED, WICKED FRANCE!

AN INDICTMENT BY AN AMERICAN CATHOLIC.

MRS. BELLAMY STORER, wife of an ex-American Minister, contributes to the *North American Review* for February a fierce attack on the Godless French Republic. She says :—

The Constitution of the Republic of the United States rests firmly upon two pillars : Religion and Justice. It declares the existence of God and Law, and our whole government is based upon it. I shall begin by describing what are to replace "Religion" and "Justice" in the Radical-Socialist government of France. Religion is supplanted by the cult of the *Déesse de la Raison* and Justice gives place to a socialism which tends toward anarchy. This is no question of politics. It is a question of religion. The *Franemaçonnerie* and the *Ligue de l'Enseignement* go hand in hand.

They have seized upon the children of France ; they have established the "neutral" school ; their task is cut out and lies before them. It is the vivisection of the child's soul ! In the first place, the name of "God" *must be banished*—he must not see or hear it. The child must be taught to worship Reason. If Religion is mentioned at all, it must be made to appear foolish, cruel and merciless ; Reason alone is wise, humane and gentle ! Since 1906 old school-books have been revised. Every allusion to God has been obliterated. The child's mind must be *free*. When he grows older this open soil shall be sown with atheist seed. The result is that authority has grown lax ; that the duty of keeping order is forgotten, and that honest people are abandoned as a prey to malefactors.

This is all very terrible, but when Mrs. Jeremiah turns her attention to England she says things which justify doubt as to her capacity to see things as they are. She says :—

The Radical-Socialist government of France is a political menace to all civilised nations. Since the "*entente cordiale*" with England, see what leaps and bounds a reckless and irresponsible socialism has taken there. The *Déesse de la Raison* is dancing the twentieth-century *carmagnole* in England !

That is Mrs. Bellamy Storer's way of describing Mr. Lloyd George's Budget.

One extract may be quoted as illustrating the way in which even grammar has been secularised in French school-books. The grammar is by Larive and Fleury (the second year). It is for children from eleven to fourteen years old. She finds on the seventh page :—

"*IV. A proposition.*	REVISED EDITIONS (SINCE 1902).
"God is great.	"*IV. A proposition.*
"In *God is great*, *God* is the subject ; *is* the verb ; and *great* the attribute."	"Paris is great.
	"In *Paris is great*, *Paris* is the subject ; *is* the verb ; and *great* the attribute."

The substitution of Paris for the Deity is thoroughly characteristic. Possibly reverence profits by the change.

It may interest some Catholics to know that Mrs. Besant takes an equally gloomy view of the future of France. In her presidential address at the Benares National Convention Mrs. Besant said :—

In France, materialism has drained away the very life of the people, and a terrible bigotry of persecuting unbelief—as narrow and as cruel as that of the religious fanaticism which has generated it—is threatening the country with political and social destruction. Only Theosophy, as Dr. Schultz pointed out in her admirable report to the French Minister of Education, can save it, by destroying materialism and restoring mysticism and rationalism to religion, and a sense of high civic duty to the people.

M. ROSTAND'S "CHANTECLER."

THE best account of Rostand's "Chantecler" in the monthly magazines is the article by Mr. John F. Macdonald in the *Fortnightly Review*. So much has been published in the daily papers concerning this great dramatic sensation of Paris that it is not necessary to describe it here, but the following passage from Mr. Macdonald's article may be quoted :—

Before us, a farmyard ; not an inmate or an object of which is wanting. White, black, grey, and brown hens strut hither and thither, sharply discussing the infidelities of Chantecler, their lord and master. Ducks and drakes, ganders and geese takes sides for or against the king of the yard. Now and again the lid of a vast wickerwork basket opens to reveal the head of the Old Hen—a very old hen, the *doyenne* of the place, and Chantecler's foster-mother. In her, of course, the cock finds an ardent defender ; but whenever the withered old head protrudes from the basket the Blackbird, hopping about in his cage, holds forth mockingly, ironically. For the Blackbird, like every other feathered creature in the play, is symbolical. He represents the smart, shallow, cynical Parisian, who scoffs at principles, ridicules genius, laughs at love, denies the existence of disinterested friendship ; and is enormously pleased with his empty, impudent self. So he makes fun of the Old Hen and of the white, black, grey, and brown hens whilst they pay naïve tributes to the supreme genius of Chantecler—the Cock of Cocks, the superb creature whose clarion, peremptory call causes the sun to rise and makes the world radiant, beautiful, and cheerful. Chantecler has betrayed the hens, but they nevertheless admire and love him. "Think of his temptations," pleads his devoted foster-mother. "All illustrious personages are surrounded by temptations." As the discussion continues, bees, butterflies, wasps fly across the stage. On a pillar, a cat dozes tranquilly in the sun. Two fluffy little chicks play at getting in and out of a gigantic sabot. To the right, a huge dog's kennel ; in the background a monster cart, with its shafts in the air. In a corner, a set of enormous harness. The birds and beasts being of Brobdingnagian sizes, the objects on the stage have been magnified in proportion. But all is natural ; never, from first to last, a note of extravagance, grotesqueness. Well ; on and on goes the discussion, and, as the Blackbird sneers and scoffs, it becomes heated and shrill. "Silence ; here he comes !" cries a pigeon. And not a sound is heard when Chantecler appears, solemn, majestic, arrogant, on the poultry-yard wall. The hens gather together, look up at him with submission, admiration. The two chicks stop their game. The cat wakes up. Even the Blackbird ceases hopping about in his cage. Magnificent, awe-inspiring, indeed, is Chantecler in his dark-green and light-brown feather dress—"the green of April and the ochre of October." He is, as on the top of the wall he recites his hymn to the Sun, Cyrano de Bergerac in feathers. He represents the artist, the creative genius, the dispenser of beauty and spiritual light. If he be the lord over the other denizens of the farmyard, it is because they will have it so. They believe the sun rises because Chantecler summons it with his shrill, imperious "Cocorico." And Chantecler the Superb believes it himself—believes it in spite of the sceptical Blackbird. Chantecler, in fact, might stand for a great many types besides the artistic ; for example, the statesman who fancies he is the creator of the social reforms that are advancing over civilisation like a tide. "I adore thee, O sun," begins Chantecler, his beak raised towards the skies.

A description of the rest of the play, with extracts from the most poetic passages of the text, will be found in the *Fortnightly Review*.

IN *Travel and Exploration* "Searchlight" gives a number of notes on the scientific objects of the Antarctic expedition which have been supplied to him by Captain Scott.

BEEF AS BUSINESS.

A LEADING article, under the title of "The Great Business of Beef," is contributed by Mr. Walter C. Howley to the *American Review of Reviews* for March. It is an extremely interesting article, describing the growth of the meat industry of the United States, to which much attention has been directed lately owing to the rise in the price of beef and the strike against the use of meat in the United States. He says that the meat trust really sells beef below the price which they pay for the animal. A bullock weighing thirteen hundred pounds yields seven hundred and sixty pounds of beef. It costs £17, and the beef is sold for £15 :—

Minneapolis Journal.]

Taking the Dilemma by Both Horns—and the Tail.

The profit to the packers comes from the ingenious utilisation of the by-products. The values follow :—

Hide, 70 lb. at 12c	$8.40	Casings	$1.00
Heart	.15	Tail	.07
Liver	.50	Hanging tender	.10
Tongue	.50	Blood	.23
Cheek meat	.20	Tripe	.25
Head and feet	.35		
Rough tallow	2.00	Total	$13 75

The extensive laboratories and experimental departments maintained by the packers have made these profits possible. The ultimate profit, from the working up of the by-products, is impossible to estimate. From the hoofs neat's-foot oil is produced. It is used in softening leather. Glue and gelatine are also worked up from the same source. From the knuckle bones lampblack is made. Tannin is extracted from the brain. It is used in the treatment of hides. The blood is dried, compressed in machines, and emerges in the form of buttons. It is also used to clarify sugar. A process of extracting albumen from the blood is also brought into play by the ingenious packers. From the fats are extracted glycerine, oleo oil, and the body for toilet and laundry soaps. Pepsin is secured from the stomach. The hoofs and horns are worked up into buttons and combs. The shank and jaw bones are worked up into knife handles and piano keys. Even the scraps and crumbs of meat are saved to come forth upon the market, after having been reduced by boiling to extract of beef. From the tankage and fertilizer such pharmaceutical extracts are obtained as potash and ammonia.

There are a half-hundred more distillations and extracts from the by-products aside from those mentioned.

Mr. Howley analyses in much detail the exact cost of bringing beef to the market. Exclusive of small tariffs, commissions, the following table shows the profit in the most favourable circumstances upon one ox :—

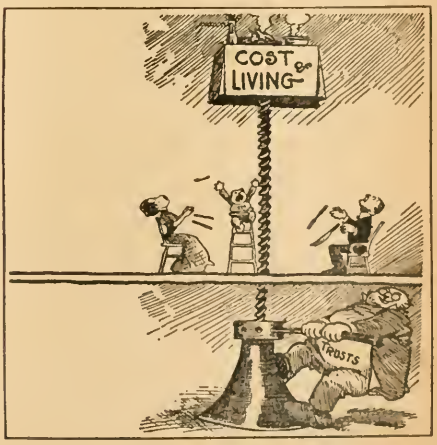
Farmer's profit on "feeder steer"	$6.00
Feeder's profit	3.45
Packer's profit	3.40
Total	$12.85

He says it is impossible to calculate the profits of the butchers, but the following table of prices of beef in Chicago may interest those who are engaged in the trade in England :—

	Weight in pounds from single steer.	Packers' price per pound. Cents.	Butchers' price per pound. Cents.	Difference in retail price on one steer.
Ribs	72	17½	22	$4.24
Loin	130	22	26	5.20
Rounds	180	8½	15	12 90
Chucks	186	8	13	10.55
Plate	95	7	10	2 85
Total butcher's profit on beef				$35 74

Mr. Howley points out that this apparently exorbitant profit is cut down very considerably owing to the fact that it impossible for the butcher to sell the lower qualities of beef at the prices given in the table. Among the incidental causes of increase in the price of beef he mentions the ignorance of the average housewife. The modern housewife does not know how to make the best of the inferior cuts of beef :—

Meats should be simmered, not boiled. An increased use of the fireless cooker and a proper understanding of the values in the cheaper cuts of beef may save them from consignment to the pickling vats for offer later as corned beef.



St. Louis Star.]

Plain as a Pikestaff.

THE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE OF IRELAND.

By Mr. Sydney Brooks.

Mr. Sydney Brooks brings to a close, in the February *North American Review*, his interesting series of papers describing the Ireland of to-day. His observation is acute, his range of vision wide, and his judgment singularly impartial. Like most keen observers, he is more impressed by the fact that Ireland is a farm than that she is a nation. He is by no means blind to the importance of politics; he recognises that the Irish problem is primarily economic.

THE REAL CRUX OF THE SITUATION

Here, for instance, is what Mr. Brooks has to say concerning the crucial question of the future of Ireland, now that the long feud over the land is being brought to a close:—

Henceforward the problem will be mainly technical and economic, a struggle not for possession, but for a livelihood. On the ability of the new proprietors to make farming and stock-raising pay depend the peace and prosperity of the country. At present, as I have before insisted, they are lamentably ill-equipped for a competitive agricultural existence. If they are unable or unwilling to improve their land and pay their instalments, the whole policy of land purchase will have been defeated, the dream of a secure and prospering peasant proprietary will have vanished, and a new race of landlords will have been called into existence ten times more avaricious, mean, and tyrannical than the worst member of the old type of English absentee. To ward off so hideous a catastrophe seems to me a task of infinitely more moment to Irish welfare than empty wrangling over the machinery of constitutional government.

WHAT IRELAND NEEDS.

There is great room for improvement. No country so palpably awaits material betterment. In the extension and wholesale reformation of her railways, in the improvement of harbours and the building of piers, in the reclamation of her million and a half acres of waste land, in the development of a broad system of arterial drainage and in reafforestation there is ample scope and reward for constructive enterprise of a kind that the grant of Home Rule or the withholding of Home Rule is powerless to affect. And overtopping all these problems there are the supreme questions of national character and of national education—of how to instil into the Irish people those qualities of moral hardihood in which they are lacking and of how to rescue their mental development from a cramping, clerical domination.

THE CASE FOR HOME RULE.

Mr. Brooks touches with a firm but unerring finger upon the great vice of the Irish character in politics, the lack of any sense of responsibility, and the hopeless lack of moral courage among the popular leaders. His remedy is Home Rule:—

To grant Home Rule is not to make the Irish character instantaneously strong, but it is to furnish the fusing and essential element out of which strength may be slowly formed. It is an old truism, but none the worse for being old, that responsibility in the long run is the only thing that makes men responsible; and a people perpetually at strife with its rulers, its national genius thwarted, and its national aspirations throttled, is a people desperately handicapped in the evolution of self-reliance and virility.

No legislation at Westminster, no mere adaptation of the constitutional machinery, can give them the force and virility, the balance and backbone, the perseverance, the contempt for unveracity and deceit, and all the other strong qualities in which candour itself must admit their deficiency. One of the great troubles with Ireland is that no Irishman will say what he thinks. In all politics one has to allow for a certain difference between private and public utterances, but in no politics is the difference so profound as in Irish. For bodies to pass resolutions to which all present are secretly opposed; for Irish politicians to deride in conversation and in private letters pretty nearly everything that they are engaged in upholding in Parliament and on the platform—these are the every-day phenomena of Irish affairs. Make-believe, a conscious insincerity and the miasma of moral cowardice permeate the entire country.

The truth of these observations has been somewhat signally illustrated by recent events in the history of the Irish Party.

"ON THE PAVEMENT WITH THE UNEMPLOYED."

Many articles have appeared by persons who disguised as an "out-of-work," and then went about among other "out-of works," seeing exactly what life was like for them. But few have appeared so well or so vividly written as that by "Old Chum," in *Blackwood's* for March. The writer thinks, as others have thought, that the only way by which it is possible to arrive at the truth in this fearful problem of unemployment in our cities is by going among the submerged fifty thousand as one of themselves. The writer dressed in "slops," which cost him 15s., and let his beard grow for a week, and then gave out that he was a ship's steward "on the beach." His accent does not seem to have betrayed him. Among his experiences was being offered a day and a half's heavy labour for eighteenpence, by a farmer who thought to take advantage of his being "down." He refused the job, and was told he was the fourth unemployed who had done so. In the evening of the same day he went about the public-houses, which towards nightfall become "the lodestone of the unemployed." I make one extract from his paper:—

If I had not stood upon that damp pavement and seen the competition amongst grown, and often respectably dressed, men to hold babies and mind children while the mothers or guardians were inside the public-houses, I would not have believed that poverty could so have reduced English manhood. I asked a grey-headed carman, who was minding a baby in arms, how he managed to live. After we had fraternised a little, he told me that he and his wife, by sleeping in the passage outside their one room, were able to let their bed sometimes for threepence, and if they should get two to sleep in it, for fivepence a night. His wife was able to make a few pence by replenishing his barrow for a coster, while he himself generally managed to pick up twopence halfpenny to threepence by minding children for their mothers outside this particular house. Can a more miserable state of society be imagined?

His experience of a Rowton House was that the officials were bureaucratic, but that the house was clean and well-managed. Of a labour exchange a working man remarked to him: "Don't let them kid you that they are going to give you any work. All they want is to make a Parliamentary return." Everywhere it was the opinion that "once you sets foot in the workhus' you're finished."

THE NATIVE QUESTION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

MR. P. A. SILBURN contributes to the *Oxford and Cambridge Review* an article entitled "The Native under South African Union." Mr. Silburn thinks that Federation ought to have preceded unification, as Federation would have solved the question of native representation satisfactorily to the native and to the European, whereas the Act of Union has only made the problem more complicated and acute. There is an urgent need for a uniform native policy, and Mr. Silburn thinks that the long misrule of the native races of Natal and Zululand springs from the lack of such a common policy. He quotes from the evidence of the Commission of 1907 to illustrate how dangerous it is to have divided government of the native races of South Africa. That the South African can govern the native wisely and justly is proved by the Native Administrations in other parts of South Africa. The Statute Book of Natal up to last year lacked one single Act benefiting the native races, yet, on the other hand, it contains no less than forty-seven Acts affecting the natives, but all of a repressive nature. The absolute incapacity of successive Ministries of Natal to administrate for its huge native population brought about a state of affairs dangerous to the whole of South Africa :—

> The evidence, as published, given before the Native Commission, is a most damning indictment of the misrule of a section of the native race of South Africa by a small and incapable Government, and it is at the same time the most emphatic plea for a uniform native policy.

Mr. Silburn does not think that the native wants the franchise, but representation, and this is how he proposes to secure it :—

> The dominant race to work out its own salvation : the form that suggests itself to me is a Council of Europeans nominated by the Governor-General in Council for a period of years, and an elective Assembly of Natives, elected by a franchise of their own, whose duty will be to advise the Council on all native measures ; by making such an Assembly elective we are satisfying once and for all the native clamour for the franchise, and we are at the same time granting him a voice in his own affairs, keeping him from meddling in ours, at the same time giving him justice.

He fears that under the Act of Union there will be a tendency to revert to the policy of Krugerism. The differential treatment between some five millions of the indigenous race strikes at the very root of union. The native is to all intents and purposes as unrecognised as he was in pre-war days in the Transvaal and Orange Free State. It is here that trouble is bound to arise. Mr. Silburn thinks it would have been wise statesmanship for the Imperial Government to have removed the governance of the native races of South Africa from the hands of the Colonials for a period of ten years, and to have extended throughout South Africa the system now in force in Basutoland, but to have improved on that system by making the Assemblies elective.

BLACK AND WHITE IN AMERICA AND AFRICA.

The State (of South Africa) for February contains two interesting illustrations of racial prejudice. Mr. William Archer, writing on black and white in the Southern States of America, strongly supports the Southern horror of amalgamation. He refers to the huge historic gap between the two races, and opposes Sir Sydney Olivier's "unproved theory" that biology approves union between white man and black woman, but disapproves union between black man and white woman. On the other hand, Mr. Philip Kerr arrives at two conclusions :—

> The first is that the negro race, given equality of environment and opportunity, has within it the capacity to reach, and will reach, the same stage of development as the average white man, or perhaps one should say as the great mass of the white population in an ordinary European community. The second conclusion is that wherever white and black come into contact, whatever the stage of development of either race, race prejudice springs up and runs blindly athwart all the laws which regulate society, politics, and economics in an ordinary white community.

He goes on, however, to declare "the fact that the negro in America is taking his place more and more as an ordinary member of society in a white community is no proof that the South African negro is going to do so also." There is an infusion of white blood in the American negro estimated at one-sixth. In Africa there is a large proportion of Arab blood. The spirit of the Zulu is absent in his American fellows. The American negro knows no language but English ; he is born into white civilisation. The native African has neither of these advantages, though he is exempt from the traditions of slavery. Therefore the writer concludes that it is impossible to propound parallels or draw correct inferences from comparison between the two.

THE German review, *Nord und Süd*, has, with the mid-February issue, reached its four hundredth number. The event is celebrated by a series of short contributions from eminent men of letters and others. Herr Humperdinck sends two lines of music, and others send poems, words of congratulation, etc. Dr. Paul Lindau, who founded the Review some thirty years ago, and who edited it during the greater part of that time, publishes a poem written by Theodor Fontane for the hundredth number and afterwards withdrawn.

IN the February number of *Velhagen* Dr. M. Wilhelm Meyer tells the story of Halley's comet, whose visit in the next few weeks is being looked forward to with so much interest. Discovered in 1682 by Edmund Halley, the comet appeared again in 1759 and in 1835. The first to have the honour of recognising its return in 1759 was Johann Georg Palizsch, a peasant and an amateur astronomer at Prohlitz, near Dresden. The illustrations include a curious representation of the appearance of the comet in 1066 taken from the so-called Bayeux tapestry.

HOW DENMARK PROVIDES FOR THE AGED POOR.

WRITING in the mid-February number of the *Nouvelle Revue*, M. Maurice Bellom explains the principles of Old Age Relief (the system of Old Age Pensions one might call it) adopted in Denmark first in 1891.

OLD AGE RELIEF VERSUS PAUPER RELIEF.

Denmark, he says, was the first country to adopt old age relief as the solution of the problem of old age of the respectable working classes. By the terms of the law of 1908, which was composed of successive amendments of the primitive law of 1891, an allowance is due to people of sixty years of age and upwards who are unable to earn for themselves and those dependent on them the necessary minimum of subsistence and medical care. No contribution is required from the recipient. The conditions are that he must not have received during the previous five years any pauper relief other than medical aid, he must not have been a criminal, his indigence must not be voluntary, and during the last ten years he must have made his home in Denmark. Pauper relief requires no condition but that of indigence. The law of old age relief, on the other hand, is concerned not only with the immediate needs of the recipients, but with their economic independence, and supplementary aid may be given in cases of sickness.

ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE OF RECIPIENTS.

It is a feature of the scheme that the recipient of old age relief may have some personal resources. As the law has not fixed the maximum of the resources above which an allowance must be refused, jurisprudence fixes it at an annual income of 500–600 crowns. In cases of large families the amount may be higher, but must not exceed 1,000 crowns. The legislator distinguishes between resources derived from private benefits and those from other sources, and while admitting the first, does not take into account the second unless the individual is worthy of them. Another feature is that an owner of an estate may apply for the relief. The legislator has deemed that such property is often burdened with mortgages which leave the owner only a fraction of the value of the estate; but even should the value of the estate exceed the maximum of the legal allowance, it is accorded to the owner. The possibility of realising by sale the value of the estate, and putting the value at the disposal of its owner, is considered merely an application of the principle of the law which consists of maintaining for the aged the economic *niveau* of his previous existence.

As to the amount of relief to be granted, the law specifies simply that the grant must provide the necessary means of existence for the man and his family as well as medical care. At Copenhagen and Frederiksberg the municipal authorities have adopted certain rules for guidance in fixing the sum. In cases of people still able to work, if the weekly income of a man is less than eight crowns (about 6s. 6d.) and that of a woman less than seven crowns, an allowance is accorded to make up this amount. For those over eighty the allowance is higher. There is also a supplementary allowance for each child. The private resources of the recipients are not deducted in fixing the allowance, unless they exceed, lodging included, an annual revenue of one hundred crowns.

CITIZEN RIGHTS RETAINED.

The grant usually takes the form of monthly payments, but it may also be paid in kind. There are homes for the aged (quite distinct of course from the workhouses) for those who are unable to look after themselves. This separation of the two kinds of indigents is even extended to the payment of the relief and to the obtaining of medical advice, and the distinction is effective as well as moral. Old age relief does not cause the recipients to forfeit their rights as citizens or render them ineligible for public life. The cost of the relief, which is borne by the State and the communes, forms no part of the ordinary poor law expenditure. In 1892 the total number of persons receiving old age relief was 43,826; in 1907, 70,445. A notable feature is the enormous number of aged working women recipients.

HOW TO MAKE CHILDREN LOVE ART.

IN the *Parents' Review* a very stimulating address by Sir Martin Conway is reported. He emphatically declares that so far as civilisation is concerned England is only some eight centuries old, and it will take a thousand years to raise a great part of our population out of the mire of pure materialism. Where civilisation prevails, there art is normal. He gives a beautiful definition: "Art is simply crystallised delight." Two very important suggestions may be quoted here:—

> Would it not be much better if school prizes were made things of beauty and could be hung upon walls and given some display? Nowadays, the various processes of reproduction in black and white, in colour, in electrotype, make it possible to obtain the most beautiful things at absurdly small prices. If the primary schools of a small town were to give away as school prizes for a few years nothing but framed reproductions of great pictures, ancient and modern, electrotypes, casts of small objects of sculpture, even plaster casts in fine bas relief, the gradual dissemination that would thus be accomplished in the houses of the working classes of things of beauty would, I think, be liable to have a civilising effect upon the whole rising generation.
>
> The walls of the school, I think, may fitly be adorned with the great monuments of the world, the great buildings, the great pictures, and the great sculptures. I understand that it is permitted by the authorities to spend every year a small sum indeed, yet one that may be cumulatively great, on the purchase of works of art for the adornment of the walls of schools.

He hopes, however, that these works of art would never be used for the purposes of a set lesson.

Topics of the Day in the Periodicals of the Month.

HOME AFFAIRS, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL.

Armies :
- The British Army, by Gen. H. Langlois, "Rev des Deux Mondes," Feb. 15.
- The Army Council System, by Col. Callwell, "Blackwood," March.
- The *Moral* of an Army, by British Officer, "National Rev," March.
- The German Army, by R. Thirsk, "Chambers's Jrnal," March.

Ballooning, Aerial Navigation :
- Flying Machines in War, by A. Hildebrandt, "Nord und Süd," Feb. 15.
- Progress in Military Aëronautics, by Major H. Bannerman-Phillips, "United Service Mag," March.
- French Military Aëronautics, "Correspondant," Feb. 25.

Co-operative Movement :
- A New Departure, by Home Counties, "World's Work," March.

Crime, Prisons :
- The Penitentiary Problem in France, by H. Joly, "Rev. des Deux Mondes," Feb. 1.

Electoral (see also Parliamentary) :
- The General Election :
  - Cook, E. T., on, "Contemp. Rev," March.
  - D'Arcy, Bishop, on, "Nineteenth Cent," March.
  - d'Haussonville, Comte, on, "Rev. des Deux Mondes," Feb. 1.
  - Lilly, W. S., on, "Nineteenth Cent," March.
  - Mond, A., on, "English Rev," March.
  - Unsigned Articles on, "Blackwood," March ; "Correspondant," Feb. 10.
- The Election from a Colonial Standpoint, by F. A. W. Gisborne, "Empire Rev," March.
- Intensive Electioneering, by D. C. Pedder, "Contemp. Rev," March.

Emigration :
- An Imperial Colonisation Scheme, by Rev. R. L. Gwynne, "Empire Rev," March.

Finance :
- Protective Tariff or Socialism, by Moreton Frewen, "Financial Rev. of Revs," March.
- Ireland and the Budget, by T. M. Healy, "National Rev," March.
- Pitt's Income Tax Scheme, by W. H. Mallock, "Nineteenth Cent," March.

Housing Problem :
- The Housing and Town Planning Act, by Sir Robert Hunter, "Local Govt. Rev," Feb.
- Housing Reform at Birmingham, by W. S. Body, "Englishwoman," March.
- The Housing Problem, by Count von Posadowsky, "Deutsche Rev," Feb.

Ireland :
- The New Ireland, by Sydney Brooks, "North Amer. Rev," Feb.
- Ireland and the Budget, by T. M. Healy, "National Rev," March.
- The New Power in Ireland, by W. O'Brien, "Nineteenth Cent," March.
- Irish Land Purchase Finance, by R. Sanders, "Financial Rev. of Revs," March.

Labour Problems :
- On the Pavement with the Unemployed, by Old Chum, "Blackwood," March.
- Sweating, etc., see under Women.
- The Labour Question in the Ruhr Mining District, by Prof. C. Francke, "Preussische Jahrbucher," Feb.
- Agricultural Labour Organisations in Italy, by I. Bonomi, "Sozialistische Monatshefte," Feb. 24.
- The Great Strike in Sweden, by F. Palmer, "Grande Rev," Feb. 10.
- Peace in Industry ; the Commercialisation of Labour, by A. Huart, "Rev. pour les Français," Feb. 25.

Local Government (see also Housing, etc.) :
- Revenue Resources of Local Authorities, by J. H. Schooling, "Local Govt. Rev," Feb.
- A New View of Municipal Trading, by Greater Londoner, "World's Work," March.
- Local Government in the Colonies, by J. E. Allen, "Local Govt. Rev," Feb.

Marriage Laws :
- The Clergy and the Marriage Law, by J. S. Francy, "Fortnightly Rev," March.

Navies :
- The Paying of Interest on Naval Expenditure in Germany, "Deutsche Rev," Feb.
- The Oligarchy of Metallurgists in France, by G. Surville, "La Revue," Feb. 15.
- Administration of the United States Navy, by Naval Critic, "North Amer. Rev," Feb.
- Mr. Newberry's Reforms in the American Navy, by Rear-Adm. C. F. Goodrich, "North Amer. Rev," Feb.

Old Age Pensions, etc. :
- Old Age Relief in Denmark, by M. Bellom, "Nouvelle Rev," Feb. 15.
- Old Age and Sickness Insurance in Austria, by Dr. R. Mayer, "Documents du Progrès," Feb.

Parliamentary (see also Electoral) :
- Four Years of English Liberalism, by Britannicus, "North Amer. Rev," Feb.
- Liberalism and the Crisis, by Sydney Brooks, "Fortnightly Rev," March.
- January, 1910, and After, by H. G. Snowden, "Oxford and Cambridge Rev," Feb.
- The Unionist Alternative, by M. Temple, "Oxford and Cambridge Rev," Feb.
- The Party System, by H. Belloc, "English Rev," March.
- Ministerial Mendacity, by Ignotus, "National Rev," March.
- A Parliament of Paradox, "World's Work," March.
- The Denial of Self-Government, by Harold Cox, "Nineteenth Cent," March.
- England's Single Chamber Experiment, by G. M. Godden, "Fortnightly Rev," March.
- A Real Upper House, by Frederic Harrison, "English Rev," Mar.

Race Problems :
- The Conflict of Colour, by B. L. Putnam Weale, "World's Work," March.

Temperance and the Liquor Traffic :
- Alcohol in relation to Life, by Prof. W. E. Dixon, "Nineteenth Cent," March.

Theatres and the Drama :
- Decadence of the English Theatre, by M. Dekobra, "La Revue," Feb. 15.
- The American Dramatic Problem, by E. Goodman, "Forum," Feb.

Women :
- Feminism in France, by Gil May, "Englishwoman," March.

A False Sex Emphasis, by Anna C. Etz, "North Amer. Rev," Feb.
Factory Law and "Welfare Workers," by A. M. Anderson, "Englishwoman," March.
Sweating and the Minimum Wage, by H. Willmott, "Socialist Rev," Feb.
The Home Workers of London, by Miss S. K. Phelps, "Nineteenth Cent," March.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN.

Colonies and the Empire :
England and the Empire, by Prof. Caldwell, "National Rev," March.

Foreign and International Affairs :
Monarchism and Diplomacy, by S. Rapoport, "Socialist Rev," Feb.
England's Universal Political Power, by Dr. Emil Daniels, "Preussische Jahrbücher," Feb.
East and West, by Count von Leyden, "Deutsche Rundschau," Feb.

Peace Movement, etc. :
Permanent Peace and the Peace Movement, by Prof. von Stengel, "Deutsche Rev," Feb.
The Declaration of London, by Prof. J. Westlake, "Nineteenth Cent," March.

Africa :
The Native under South African Union, by Major P. A. Silburn, "Oxford and Cambridge Rev," Feb.
Germany and England in Africa, by Herr Dernburg, "Jrnal. African Soc," Jan.
Germany and South-West Africa, by Dr. Paul Rohrbach, "Preussische Jahrbücher," Feb.
Belgium, Britain, and Congo, by E. D. Morel, "Nineteenth Cent," March.
Recruiting Black Troops in French Africa, by Capt. X.X.X, "Rev. de Paris," Feb. 1.
Angola, by A. Marvaud, "Questions Diplomatiques," Feb. 1.

Austria-Hungary :
The New Phase of Parliamentarism in Austria, by H. Hantich, "Questions Diplomatiques," Feb. 1.

Balkan States :
The Unity of the Slav Languages, by A. Meillet, "Rev. de Paris," Feb. 1.
Towards a Balkan Confederation, by F. d'Anole, "Rev. pour les Français," Feb. 25.

Belgium :
Leopold II. and His Reign :
Boshart, A., on, "Deutsche Rev," Feb.
Tardieu, A., on, "Rev. des Deux Mondes," Feb. 1.
The New Belgium, by H. Charriaut, "Nouvelle Rev," Feb. 15.

China :
The Fall of Yuan Shih-Kai, by L. F. Lawton and H. Hobden, "Fortnightly Rev," March.

Finland :
Eucken, R., on, "Nord und Süd," Feb. 1.
Reuter, J. N., on, "Contemp. Rev," March.

France :
National Anxiety, by Victor Bérard, "Rev de Paris," Feb. 1 and 15.
The Financial Situation, by P. Baudin, "Grande Rev," Feb. 10.
The Financial Oligarchy, by Lysis, "Grande Rev," Feb. 10.
The Decadence of France, by Maria L. Storer, "North Amer. Rev," Feb.
An Anglo-French Alliance, by E. Lémonon, "Questions Diplomatiques," Feb. 1.
Franco-German Relations :
Brandt, M. von, on, "Deutsche Rev," Feb.
Tardieu, A., on, "Deutsche Rev," Feb.

Germany and Prussia :
Electoral Reform in Prussia, by L. Arons, "Socialistische Monatshefte," Feb. 10.
The Government, Parties, Finance, by D., "Preussische Jahrbücher," Feb.
Social Policy, 1870-1910, by V. Brants, "Rev. Générale," Feb.
Workmen and Social Reform, by W. Schröder, "Sozialistische Monatshefte," Feb. 24.
German Commercial Tactics, by Watchman, "National Rev," March.
Germany and the United States (Tariff), by One Who Knows, "Forum," Feb.
The German Press Bureau, by G. V. Williams, "Contemp. Rev," March.
Will England and Germany Fight? by W. B. Hale, "World's Work," March.
An Anglo-German Entente, by Lord Lamington, "Nineteenth Cent," Mar.
Franco-German Relations :
Brandt, M. von, on, "Deutsche Rev," Feb.
Tardieu, A., on, "Deutsche Rev," Feb.

India :
Bitter India, by P. Kennaday, "Forum," Feb.
The Constitutional Experiment, by Syed Ameer Ali, "Nineteenth Cent," March.
English Popular Institutions, by English Resident, "Empire Rev," March.

Italy :
Italian Nationalism, by M. Muret, "Questions Diplomatiques," Feb. 1.

Japan :
Great Britain and Japan in the Far East, by Earl Stanhope, "Nineteenth Cent," March.

Manchuria :
Great Britain and Japan in the Far East, by Earl Stanhope, "Nineteenth Cent," March.

Persia :
Our Weak Policy in Persia, by M. B. Blake, "Nineteenth Cent," March.
A New Economic Movement, by Helen Campbell, "Twentieth Cent. Mag," Feb.

Russia (see also Finland) :
P. A. Stolypin, by R. C. Long, "Fortnightly Rev," March.
The French Loans, by Lysis, "Grande Rev," Feb. 10.
The Agrarian Question in Russia, by J. Daugny, "Nouvelle Rev," Feb. 15.

Switzerland :
The Swiss Parliament, by F. Bonjour, "Bibliothèque Universelle," Feb.

Turkey :
The Future of the Ottoman Empire, by F. L. Leipnik, "Contemp. Rev," March.
The Successors of Abdul Hamid, by Gen. Cherif Pasha, "La Revue," Feb. 1.
Two Constitutional Budgets, by R. G. Lévy, "Rev. des Deux Mondes," Feb. 1.
Recent Armenian Massacres, by Archbishop Mouchegh, "La Revue," Feb. 10.

United States :
Germany and the United States (Tariff), One Who Knows, "Forum," Feb.
The Men Who are governing New York City, by W. B. Shaw, "Amer. Rev. of Revs," March.

THE REVIEWS REVIEWED

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

The March number of the *Nineteenth Century* contains a great variety of interesting articles. I notice elsewhere Mr. O'Brien's "New Power in Ireland" and some others.

THE JOY OF THE POOR IN DEATH.

Miss Sydney K. Phelps's paper on "The Home Workers of London" is the gem of the number. For human interest, deep pathos, keen sympathy and shrewd observation it is one of the best of the kind I have ever read. Speaking of the matchbox-making women and other sweated workers Miss Phelps says:—

They are not discontented, they have no grievance against anyone, they have no idea that they are ill-used. They suppose, when facing any extra trial, that "it had to be." They resent nothing, they hope nothing; they dread change, since all changes they have known have been for the worse. They are decent, hard-working to a fault, sober, kindly, and very proud. The only sign which I have discovered amongst them of any sense that this world has failed them is in their unfeigned touching joy at the sight of a funeral amongst their own ranks. This puzzled me at first, and then I saw its meaning. It was a thoroughly unselfish demonstration of pleasure at the thought that for one of them at least the worst was over, and the best just beginning.

THE NEW CODE OF NAVAL WAR.

Professor Westlake, writing on the Declaration of London, says:—

That the ten greatest naval Powers of the world should have met in conference on the laws of naval war as affecting neutrals, and that after careful consideration they should have agreed on a code so comprehensive as that contained in the Declaration of London, would alone suffice to make the year 1909 memorable to all who are interested in the improvement of international relations. It remains for the year 1910 to make that code binding on the parties by ratification, after which the natural course of events will speedily make it the binding code of the world. There are, however, some who object to it.

Therefore Professor Westlake sets forth with professional precision the reasons why he thinks the declaration should be ratified.

AN INDIAN VIEW OF LORD MORLEY'S REFORMS.

The Right Hon. Syed Ameer Ali, writing on the Constitutional Experiment in India, gives Lord Morley's scheme his benediction. He says:—

The object unquestionably is to give the educated classes, and the classes with a stake in the country, a substantial part in its government and the management of its affairs. But that part is in the main advisory and not directory or controlling. The constitutional experiment is one of the most momentous events in the history of India. To an outsider, honestly examining the facts, it seems that the Government have with wisdom, fairness, and no little generosity accomplished the task they undertook. It is eminently suited for the conditions that exist in India, and, with a slight readjustment and modification of details, without interference with the principles, it might serve a really beneficient purpose in the promotion of national welfare.

DE GIDS.

The first article in *De Gids* is on Shakespeare, and one cannot help being struck by the affection and reverence which the writer expresses for the Bard of Stratford-on-Avon. He dwells on the early days, when he read Shakespeare with half-understanding, and then says how he gradually awakened to the power and beauty of the work. Shakespeare is better known and much more frequently represented on the stage in Germany, and some other Continental countries, than in Holland. The next article is a review of a Roman Catholic book on Sociology; it is intended to be used as a handbook by the pupils of seminaries; and there seems to be an impression that the contents of this book will not meet with the approval of the majority of those (outside the Roman Catholic Church) who study the social question. Another article in *De Gids* deals with the attempts to construct "The First Chapter of National History" by archæological research.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.

I have refeired separately to the article which is perhaps the most generally and humanly interesting this month—that upon the life of the unemployed. "Musings Without Method" is partly filled with a severe castigation of Mr. Arthur Ponsonby's book, "The Camel and the Needle's Eye," "one of the violent attacks upon wealth to which the last few years have accustomed us." It is not much use, in the daily changing political situation, to comment on the article upon "The Elections and their Moral," but the writer remarks that had the people believed a twentieth part of the terrible indictments urged against Conservatism, they would have tumbled it into the sea.

THE ARMY COUNCIL SYSTEM.

Colonel C. E. Callwell, C.B., writing on the Army Council System, established now nearly six years ago, evidently considers that on the whole it has worked well. But it has worked well in times of peace, and it is not adapted, even in theory, for carrying on a war, "nor would its warmest admirers, if aware of the facts, be prepared to affirm that on the one occasion when it has been face to face with an emergency it proved itself an unqualified success."

THE SAFETY OF LONDON—"A STANDING MIRACLE."

Sir Robert Anderson's paper on "The Lighter Side of My Official Life" covers the time of the "Jack the Ripper" murders. He would almost be tempted to divulge the identity of the murderer, he says, would any public benefit result from such a course. The individual suspected was caged in an asylum, and was identified at once, but the identifier, learning that the suspect was a fellow-Jew, would not "swear to him." The safety of life in London the writer considers "a standing miracle," so much so that some Americans absolutely refuse to believe it. They guessed two hundred murders as the normal yearly number of murders—this was the year of the Chicago Exhibition; and they would not believe that twenty was then a number exceptionally high.

THE WORLD'S WORK.

The March number contains much information, new and old. The old, as, for example, the story of the birth of the telephone and of the growth of the co-operative movement, is written with great freshness and vividness. The story of Commander Peary's negro assistant is quoted elsewhere.

IS AN ANGLO-GERMAN WAR INEVITABLE?

Mr. W. B. Hale discusses, "wholly from an American point of view," the question, Will England and Germany fight. He answers:—

The most serious possible ground for fearing that England and Germany are about to fight is the belief of the people of England and Germany that they are about to do so.

But the real reason for this conviction is:—

England does not in its heart of hearts believe its own talk of Germany's warlike intentions. But it shivers with a waking consciousness of its own.

Mr. Hale says that Germans assume the deterioration of English efficiency and influence as a thing

indisputable, and accept as undeniable the superiority of their own industrial and commercial situation. He fears that "England has subconsciously resolved that this peaceful expansion of German influence must be checked, if war will check it." He appeals to history to show that England is always at work against the power paramount on the mainland. It is the instinct of self-preservation that teaches England that it cannot safely permit the integration of Continental Europe.

THE PROBLEM OF THE COLOURED RACES.

Mr. B. L. Putnam Weale gives the interesting conclusion of a series of articles which he has contributed on the conflict of colour. He lays stress on the fact that there has with Japan arisen the first Asiatic sea-power. He recalls the fact that four times in a thousand years Europe was invaded by most powerful hordes from Asia, and each time that the invaders were finally shattered powerful European nations arose from the ruins of the battle-field. It was reaction from the Asiatic invasions that led to the white man's present position all the world over. But now Asia is equipping herself with Western weapons, and the nature of European claims is at last properly and universally understood. Once the European was regarded simply as a distant suzerain, whose suzerainty meant little or nothing. Now he is seen to claim settled conquest. Asia at present is in a state of unstable equilibrium, because not grounded politically on an equitable basis. An entirely different policy must be pursued by England towards both China and India:—

In the Far East China must be made to balance against Japan in much the same way that in Europe the Dual Alliance balances the Triple Alliance; and India must be made to balance against the chaotic world lying on her frontiers and reaching to Egypt and beyond, just as England in Europe balances against all the undefined forces of disorder. This is the logical and only method, and yet it is one which does not yet enter into practical politics.

England, he says, occupies the position of arbiter.

OTHER ARTICLES.

Mr. Arthur Norton describes how the Port of Bombay is wresting a square mile from the sea in order to provide, at a cost of nearly a million, wharfage of nearly two and a-half miles, and suitable harbour accommodation. "Home Counties" describes a new departure in co-operation—namely, in agriculture, and the difference between the industrial and agricultural movements in Canada, Scotland, Ireland and England. C. Metcalfe Enriquez, in a beautifully illustrated article, tells of the development of Kashmir. The electricity generated by utilising the neighbouring waterfalls is far in excess of what can actually be used in Kashmir. It has been applied to deepening the river Jhelum. "Greater Londoner" suggests a modification of the German system of municipal trading by entrusting the trading to a committee that includes co-opted experts. Mr. Ambrose Hamilton describes the new British airship, the Willows Dirigible, of Cardiff. Mr. F. A. Talbot gives the remarkable record in railway construction effected in the Lackawanna off-cut, a shortening and straightening of a railway at the average cost of £66,000 per mile.

THE CONTEMPORARY REVIEW.

The *Contemporary Review* for March opens with two political articles on "The Election and Its Lessons," and closes with Dr. Dillon's admirable and luminous survey of the international political situation.

A POET AND A SEER.

Sir Percy Bunting has ventured somewhat boldly in printing (but he has also done well) Miss Regina Mirian Bloch's marvellous dream-vision of "Istar in the Under World." While professing to be "practically founded on an old Babylonian story written on a tablet in the British Museum," it is in reality a prose-poem of marvellous power and originality. Miss Bloch must have seen in some nightmare, hashish or opium born, this revelation of the under world. It is more Oriental than Dantesque. Miss Bloch, if she can survive such visions, will make a mark in English letters.

THE PROSPECT IN TURKEY.

The editor of the *Pester Lloyd* and Dr. Dillon both discuss the Balkan situation, and arrive at opposite conclusions. The Hungarian prophesieth peace and the tranquil evolution of Constitutionalism. He says:—

Hakki Pasha seems to have been entrusted with full power, and being supported by the *Generalissimus*, Mahmud Shevket, he is expected to begin the work that, so far, has been neglected. The future of the Ottoman Empire greatly, nay, entirely, depends upon the attitude which the British Foreign Office may assume towards the Turkish reformers.

On the other hand, Dr. Dillon tells us that Mahmud Shevket is the centre of a feverishly active circle of military men who firmly believe that war alone can bring salvation to the Empire:—

He has had heavy guns ordered in Germany, horses by the thousand bought in Little Russia and Hungary, the barracks near the Bulgarian frontiers raised to five times their ordinary strength. Twenty thousand Redifs have been summoned to the colours. In a word, he is ubiquitous and indefatigable. And long after the bulk of the inhabitants have retired for the night Mahmoud Shefket Pasha works tirelessly on, as though the very existence of the Empire depended on his keeping vigil.

VENIZELOS AS THE MAN OF THE HOUR.

Dr. Dillon maintains that M. Venizelos of Crete is the saviour of the situation in Greece. He is working hand-in-hand with Colonel Tsorbas, and there is nothing in his policy that threatens peace or the dynasty:—

He has achieved a threefold feat which entitles him to the gratitude of the Greek people. He has fused the Military League with the nation, poured oil on the troubled waters of parliamentary politics, and eliminated from the imminent dangers of the moment that of Crete electing deputies to a Greek legislative Chamber. The only mutually hostile factors now left in Greece are the two sections of the navy, the revolutionary and the conservative. If they remain quiet all will be well. But if they brew trouble there will be an end to Greece as an important political factor in Near Eastern politics.

MYSTICISM AND STAINED GLASS.

Mrs. March Phillips writes a very able and suggestive paper on the relation between Asia, Mysticism, and Stained Glass. Her design, she says, was to—

indicate the common origin and natural connection between something in mediæval life and something in medieval art. We have, on the one hand, a vein of mysticism running through mediæval life, which may be traced, through many ducts and channels, mainly Hellenic, and of which Neoplatonism is perhaps the chief, to its home in the East. On the other hand, we have a suffusion of glowing colour, an equally marked and peculiar trait in mediæval art, which may also be traced back, as experts agree, to a like source. The emotional scheme of colour, as I may call it, is the expression in terms of art of the mysticism in mediæval life.

The present revival of interest in colour apart from form is, she notes, coincident with a revived interest in mystical subjects.

THE HUMOURS OF THE PARIS FLOOD

Mr. Laurence Jerrold, in an entertaining paper

describing Paris after the flood, thus touches upon the lighter side of the great disaster:—

We felt for the ladies, in wonderful frocks and hats, obliged to pay calls (social duties never lapsing) in dirty boats, whence the grimy boatmen had to haul them through the window into the drawing-room of the lady whose "day" it was. We felt for the gentleman in top hat white gloves, and Bond-street clothes, going in the same sort of grimy boat no doubt to ask the hand of the young lady with whom his marriage had been arranged before the flood; and for the perfect tourist, who sailed with beautiful yellow kit-bags off in a boat apparently to the Gare de Lyon (if it was still accessible that day) to try to start for Monte Carlo. We really loved the gentleman who imperturbably navigated his wife's wardrobe on the bilge-water, having removed its looking-glass doors, and who afterwards (an eye-witness tells me) bought with pride a dozen dozen of the picture-postcards representing him on his cruise; and we loved all the other ingenious people—the man who paddled in his zinc bath on the Esplanade des Invalides; the old gentlemen who angled contentedly, and with some success, from a first-floor window on the Quai d'Orsay.

OTHER ARTICLES.

Mr. J. N. Reuter, in a brief incisive letter, states the Finnish case against the Russian indictment communicated by Dr. Dillon to a previous number of the Review, the Rev. Dr. James writes on "Faith, Fact and Experience," and Monsignor Barnes, replying to Canon Hammond, says that there are far more texts favouring the primacy of St. Peter than favour the doctrine of the Trinity or of the Divinity of Christ.

THE NATIONAL REVIEW.

Periodical obsessions seem to be the fate of this strenuous review. Not many years ago bi-metallism was the craze which continually appeared, like the proverbial King Charles's head. Now it is a blend of Tariff Reform and anti-Germanism.

"Watchman" has discovered a most menacing mare's nest in the "German Commerce Defence League"! By "confidences not often imparted to Englishmen," he has ascertained that this League subsidises German clerks who work for apparently a miserable pittance in English offices, and who by their knowledge of English life, language, and commerce, are able later to secure well paid berths and to repay with ample interest the subsidy of their earlier days. These men, in short, are "spies in the service of the enemy." They are sent all over the world to worm out the secrets of our trade and disclose the weak spots in our armour, and generally to oust British trade in favour of German. This has been done successfully in Brazil, and is now in process in the Argentine. Then we are told the usual story of Germany preparing for war with us. In the meantime, however, so long as we stick to Free Trade, Germany plays the game of "protestations of friendship and a fawning attitude," at the same time endeavouring to embroil England with other Powers. Germany had a hand in bringing about the Boer War. Germany promoted the Russo-Japanese War on the supposition that England would inevitably be drawn into it. Then comes an extraordinary story: "When she found that the ruse had failed she engineered a pretty little plot on the Dogger Bank to force England into war with Russia." Even this is improved upon in the undisguised insinuation that the ample funds of the "Commerce Defence League" are used to subsidise the party in England that stands for Free Trade!

In fit company with "Watchman's" "confidences" is a paper by "Ignotus" on Ministerial Mendacity, which declares "that never had facts been more shamelessly distorted, never had such misleading assertions been made by British Cabinet Ministers," but "those who follow Mr. Chamberlain have fought fairly. Not one single statement or leaflet of the Tariff Reform League has been successfully challenged." Verily the writer is an authority on mendacity.

"The Emerging Soul of England" is a cheery note struck by Sir Francis Younghusband. Encouraged by the fact that the majority of seats in England have been filled by Unionists, he declares that "the true England, the England of the Counties and the Rural Towns, is suffused by the spirit of a great people in the greatest age the world has seen."

His constructive policy is a reconstruction of the House of Lords, Tariffs, Reform, Naval Defence, Universal Military Service, multiplication of Small Landowners, Poor Law Reform of the kind suggested by the Royal Commission, and—strange to come from a Conservative pen—"We virile races of the North require a religion of *our own*, evolved from our midst and fitted to our character." This latest whoop of British "patriotism" may be commended to the attention of the Bishops.

AMERICAN REVIEWS.

In the *Twentieth Century Magazine* for February Mr. Alfred H. Brown devotes several pages to an appreciative criticism and description of the poetry of George Cabot Lodge, a young poet whose premature death excited much sympathy and regret in America. The same magazine publishes a sketch of "The Fourth Estate," one of those dramas with a purpose which have had great success in America. It deals with the interior of a newspaper office, and it is put upon the stage with great realism. Helen Campbell gives an interesting exposition of Behaism, the religion and political doctrines of the Bab. Another article calling for notice is Mr. J. C. Wilkinson's account of John Spargo, whom he met as a social agitator in England, and who is now making great way as a social lecturer in America. Mr. Wilkinson declares that Mr. Spargo has quietly revolutionised Socialism. He has taken it out of the sordid and mean levels and made it a religion; he has revealed the beauty and grandeur of Socialism to the world.

The *Forum*, which has undergone many changes of late, now appears with a new cover, and it contains much of a lighter nature than that which we usually found between the old covers. Edwin Markham writes upon the poetry of Jesus. Miss Richman, District Superintendent of Public Schools, New York City, in an article entitled "The Social Need for the Public School," calls attention to the importance of having a special school and homo visitor.

The only political article is a short paper on the criminal folly of a Tariff War between Germany and the United States. The drift of the writer's argument is that what "Dreadnoughts" are to England her agriculture is to Germany, because in case of war with France and Russia Germany would be in the same position in which England would find herself if her fleet were destroyed, unless she could replenish her store from her own acres. To ask of Germany the impairment of the integrity of her live stock would be like politely requesting England to abandon her fleet. To strike a blow at the German oxen is to strike a blow at the safety of the Empire. The paper is an interesting one as indicating the anxious desire of Germany to cultivate good relations with America, and to suggest that Germany, and not England, is the natural ally of the United States.

THE FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW.

The March *Fortnightly Review* contains one terrible article, and that is Mr. Long's impeachment of Stolypin, which stands out conspicuous from all the rest. I notice it elsewhere. Others are very good, and cover a variety of subjects, but a few of them call for special notice.

A VINDICATION OF CROMWELL.

Mr. G. M. Godden, writing on England's Single Chamber Experiment, endeavours to exploit in the interests of the House of Lords the conduct, or rather misconduct, of the Rump Parliament, which acted as a kind of revolutionary Committee of Government after the execution of Charles I. It is ridiculous to treat the action of such a body in such circumstances as affording any suggestion as to what would be the course of a properly elected representative single Chamber when England was in a normal condition. The value of his article lies in the vindication for the action of Oliver Cromwell when he dissolved it by his troopers:—

This was the last straw. For four years an uncontrolled House of Commons had destroyed English justice, annulling the Habeas Corpus; had suppressed the liberty of the Press; had coerced the freedom of individuals; had failed to provide a navy capable of protecting either our shores at home or our commerce abroad; had witnessed the indelible disgrace of an enemy's fleet commanding the Channel; had produced the wildest examples of fanatical legislation. Now the nation found itself faced with the prospect of this Single Chamber in perpetuity, automatically re-electing itself, a House not only uncontrolled but indestructible. It was Parliamentarianism run mad. Cromwell's common sense told him what to do.

YUAN SHIH-KAI.

Two writers working together, Lancelot F. Lawton and H. Hobden, describe the fall of Yuan Shih-Kai, the great Chinese Viceroy, who is now in disgrace. They say that his deposition has been followed by grave consequences, the ultimate end of which no man can foresee. It is possible that he may come back again, and there is certainly great need for a man of his calibre at the helm. As long as bribery and corruption prevail in Pekin no attempt at serious reform can succeed. An international agreement might save the situation, but Japan is making a deliberate campaign for the purpose of securing influence among the Chinese masses. Russia is still powerful in the North, and the United States alone has raised her voice in favour of the maintenance of the open door in Manchuria.

BLACK BREAD AND BLATCHFORD.

A Journalist writes a very sensible article concerning the discovery of Germany by the British Electorate at the recent General Election. He rightly ridicules the bad mistake of making so much of the black bread argument. He says:—

It was due to the very imperfect knowledge and an instinctive too-eager grasping at anything which seemed to supply the single, simple, homely proposition which is needed to awaken conviction in the mass of English voters.

The Journalist treats the Blatchford episode in a serious spirit. In spite of its strongly-marked character and force,—

It has considerably weakened our already damaged reputation for coolness and common sense, coming as it did when the eyes of the world were upon us and when we were in a condition of general political irritability that gave an unprecedented chance to the sounders of the tocsin.

THE CLERGY AND THE MARRIAGE ACT.

Mr. J. S. Francy writes an historical article on the subject of marriage with the Deceased Wife's Sister. He says:—

It is worth noting in conclusion that, except perhaps in parts of the Eastern world, where numbers of impediments long forgotten here still obtain, there does not appear to be a country at the present day where the marriage of a man with his deceased wife's sister is not permitted, though under certain governments, both Catholic and Protestant, it is subject to some form of dispensation. Many of the reasons for former prohibitions have passed away, and it is no secret that, had the last Vatican Council not been interrupted, proposals for the modification of the existing Roman Canon law on the subject would have been considered.

SOME LITERARY ARTICLES.

Mr. Francis Gribble tells the love story, strictly platonic in its nature, of Lamartine and Elvire, a real woman, whose name was Madame Julie Charles. Mr. H. B. Samuel describes the work of Arthur Schnitzler, the Austrian dramatist. He says that no dramatist has written tragedy with so light a hand, or comedy with so ironically pathetic a smile. Ethel M. de Fonblanque describes the Italian circle at Holland House. Mr. Herbert Ives writes enthusiastically upon William Blake as a Teacher. Briefly stated, this is what he thinks was the ideal of Blake:—

He wanted to see man prove himself worthy of the spirit of life within him. He must work hard, enjoy his pleasures without stopping to think if they were good or evil, for his judgment, if permitted to act without limitation, would save him from excess. In other words, he must crystallise his thoughts into works, and should taste of all things lest he become abnormally developed in one direction.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.

The February number of the *North American Review* is good. I quote elsewhere from the articles on New Zealand and Ireland.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT, 1906-10.

"Britannicus," in an article entitled "Four Years of Liberal Policy," pays a glowing tribute to the excellent work done by the Liberals since the defeat of Mr. Balfour in 1906. He says, it—

is a record of legislative energy unique, I think, in British history, and one that not only exemplifies the range and effectiveness of the British Parliament as a law-making instrument, but that can hardly fail to interest students of political tendencies and social reformers everywhere. The Liberal Government has done more than any Government that has yet held office in Great Britain to make the Empire something more than a glittering abstraction, to knit its component parts together by military, naval and commercial conventions, and to develop the resources of its more backward regions. But even though three important measures were lost by the action of the Peers, the Liberal record remains one of unique practicality and success, inspired by sincerity and humanity, and remarkably illustrative of the scope and fascination of British political life.

A NUT FOR VEGETARIANS TO CRACK.

Dr. Chas. Woodruff, in an article entitled "Nitrogen Starvation" draws up a damaging indictment against vegetarians, and especially against those who have recently been trying experiments to prove upon how little flesh food the American soldier can subsist. He is an enthusiast for flesh-eating. He attributes disease largely to absence of flesh and similar nitrogenous foods. He says:—

Botanists long ago gave the name of "nitrogen starvation" to the condition of plants in which this first essential of life was deficient, and no better term can be applied to the underfed peasantry of Europe. As a matter of fact the world over, the higher classes are fed with an abundance of nitrogen and are the healthiest, longest lived, most energetic, best developed and freest from disease.

ARCHITECTURE AND THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE.

Mr. Thos. Hastings, discussing modern architecture, surveys the influence by action and reaction of architecture on mankind, and concludes by asking:—

Consider the time in which we are now living. Will our monuments adequately record the splendid achievements

of our contemporaneous life—the spirit of modern justice and liberty—the progress of modern science—the genius of modern invention and discovery—the elevated character of our institutions? Will disorder and confusion in our architecture express the intelligence of this twentieth century?

HOW WALLER'S VERSE CAME TO BE.

Mr. W. W. Gay, discussing the origin of Waller's sonnets, says that Waller lived in an age which "was largely, if not entirely, due to the political and religious controversies which absorbed public attention, turned English writers into pamphleteers and created a national relish for didactic composition. As a result of this new English mood, the heroic couplet became the natural and popular medium of poetic expression, and it was reformed by Waller, who had learned the art of restrained and lucid writing from the Elizabethan, Edward Fairfax."

SCIENCE PROGRESS.

Dr. W. J. Sollas, Professor of Geology in the University of Oxford, concludes his series of papers on "The Palæolithic Races" and the discussion as to to the date in which the palæolithic man lived in the world. He thinks that most of the evidence of the industries of palæolithic man are to be found, so far as this country is concerned, between the third and fourth glacial epochs. The history of the self-manifestation of intelligence and the development of its companion, the brain, is the chief theme of the tertiary era.

The great boom which is now going on in the rubber market will lead some people to turn with interest to Mr. Parkin's paper on the Para rubber cultivation. At present plantation rubber forms a mere fraction of the world's supply—perhaps five per cent. Since 1905, when about two hundred tons of it were exported from the East, the output has doubled year by year. If this continues, the yield in four years' time will be equal to the total annual output of wild rubber at the present time namely, 70,000 tons. Even at a lower estimate half a million acres will be in bearing in 1914, which would mean an output of 22,000 tons a year. In ten years' time plantation rubber can hardly be less than 100,000 tons per annum: when that time arrives rubber will probably drop in price to 3s. a lb.

Nearly thirty pages are devoted to the Presidential Address to the Association of Public School Science Masters, delivered at Westminster School, January 13th, 1910, on "The Future of Science in Our Schools." The author maintains that complete re-organisation is necessary. Science ought to be taught practically, and the main care of the teacher should be to develop the right spirit—the right attitude of mind in the pupil—a proper appreciation of scientific method and some power of applying it. Incidentally, it is interesting to notice that Dr. Armstrong thinks that the fact that boys in the higher schools are only taught by men is of great value, which is perhaps only obvious to those who know something of modern American schools, which are almost entirely in the hands of women teachers—so that the example of gentlemen is lacking and little chance given of stemming the tide of commercialism.

One of the most interesting papers in the number is that describing the recent investigation on the bearing of the Gulf Stream upon the climate and crops in Northern Europe. The author maintains that both the harvests and fisheries of Northern Europe entirely depend for their productiveness upon the volume of sub-tropical water which reaches the Norwegian coast from the Atlantic. There is much more salt in the Gulf Stream than there is in the seas into which it flows. But for the Gulf Stream circulation Norway would have a climate resembling that of Greenland. The earlier or later ploughing or sowing seasons in Norway depend upon the earlier or later maxima of the Gulf Stream flow. The author's conclusion is that the character of the seasons in the Scandinavian countries may be predicted about six months or a year ahead; while that of the sea off the Murman coast might be foretold about two years in advance. Whenever there is a weak Atlantic circulation there will be poor crops in Western Europe and Northern Germany.

Mr. W. B. Brodrick writes an interesting paper upon Halley's Comet, illustrated by a curious picture of the comet from the Bayeux Tapestry. The writer suggests that if it had not been for Halley's Comet there would have been no Norman conquest of England. It inspired the Normans with courage, added many recruits to their ranks, and struck terror into the hearts of the English. He thinks the comet of 1066, therefore, was a potent factor in determining the issue of the Battle of Hastings.

CASSELL'S MAGAZINE.

In the March number begins a new story by Mr Max Pemberton. One of the principal articles, which are all very light, is upon "Children who will be Rulers," from the Princess Juliana of Holland (a pretty baby, it would seem) to the Prince of the Asturias. The Crown Prince of Italy appears in full uniform. The Tsarevitch is said to run much danger of being spoiled, which it is easy to believe. Another article consists of hints as to how to become a successful singer, by Madame Liza Lehmann. Always sing from memory, she says; be careful that the expression of your face harmonises with the song you are about to sing; do not come forward to sing a noble song, and then raise a forefinger and scratch the side of your nose; do not take stimulants to try to get rid of a dry throat, and many other pieces of advice, the common sense of which it is easy to perceive. Dr. Woods Hutchinson, writing upon "Children and Sweets," strenuously combats the idea that sugar is bad for us or that it causes decay of the teeth. After meat, bread, and butter, it is quite the most important and necessary food. "Give children plenty of pure sugar, toffee, and butterscotch, and they'll have little need of cod-liver oil."

The opening article in *The New Quarterly* for February is by the great Dante scholar, Mr. A. J. Butler, whose death has just been announced. It is upon "Dante and the Renaissance"; and its point is that between the mind of Dante and the mind of the Renaissance there could be no sympathy.

INSURANCE NOTES.

The estate of the late Robert B. Cameron, late secretary of the A.M.P. Society, has been sworn for probate purposes at £10,248.

Mr. W. R. Ray, Melbourne manager of the Union Insurance Society of Canton Ltd., announces that the recommendation of the directors at the head office, Hong Kong, for the division of the profits for the year ending 31st December last are as follow:—Final dividend of 20 dollars per share for 1908, making a total dividend of 50 dollars per share for that year, and an interim dividend of 30 dollars per share on account of 1909, and a bonus of 20 per cent. to contributors of business.

The fine Aberdeen liner, "Pericles," which left Melbourne for London, via South Africa, with a large list of passengers and a valuable cargo, on Saturday, 26th March, foundered three miles off Cape Leeuwin, and was totally lost. All the passengers and crew reached land in safety. The loss of so fine a ship following the disappearance of the "Waratah," means that marine underwriters have fared badly during the last six months. The damage done to the steamer "Papanui" and the "Waipara," has also involved considerable loss. The value of the hull of the "Pericles" has been stated at about £240,000, and estimates as to the worth of the cargo range from £200,000 to £250,000. The insurances have been widely distributed among the various offices and Lloyds. Such disasters must show the folly of cut-throat competition in a class of business like that of marine insurance.

Extensive damage was done by a fire which broke out in the timber-yard of Messrs. Sydney Edwards Timber Co. Ltd., at Camperdown (N.S.W.), in the early morning of the 12th April. The outbreak spread with terrific rapidity to all parts of the premises, and great difficulty was experienced in effecting the rescue of 15 valuable horses from their stables. Buildings and timber were insured with the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation for £5900, and the gas engine plant with the Guardian Assurance Co. for £495. The assurances will cover the whole of the loss.

A valuable motor-car, owned by Mr. Henry Williams, of Kerang, Victoria, was recently totally destroyed by fire whilst travelling on the road. The carburretter by some means caught fire, and the flames, aided by a strong wind, speedily enveloped the body, which was destroyed and the iron frame badly twisted. The car was partially covered by insurance.

The sub-committee of experts appointed in connection with the conference dealing with the question of an adequate water supply for fire extinction purposes in the Melbourne metropolitan area, submitted its report on the 1st April. The sub-committee consisted of Messrs. A. C. Mountain (City Surveyor), C. E. Oliver (Engineer-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Board of Works), and H. B. Lee (Chief Officer to the Metropolitan Fire Brigade). Its recommendation was that about £300,000 should be spent on the reconstruction of the reticulation service of Melbourne and the suburbs. The committee of the conference will meet again at a later date, when a draft report will be presented.

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Owing to the unremunerative results of marine underwriting for the past year in connection with the Australian trade, an effort to increase the rates of insurance is being made in London.

A huge conflagration occurred on Friday night, 15th April, at Mr. W. J. Brewer's timber yards at Clifton Hill, Melbourne. The fire broke out at about 9 o'clock, and rapidly enveloped the whole premises and threatened to extend to adjoining properties. The inadequacy of the water supply to deal with a large fire was immediately apparent, and the timber-yard, buildings, machinery and stock were speedily demolished. The damage is roughly estimated at £20,000, which is not fully covered by insurance.

The good work of the Ballarat (Vic.) Fire Brigade prevented what might have been a serious fire in their city on 28th March. The outbreak commenced between the ceiling and roof of Messrs. Besemeres and Walker's furniture saleroom, in Sturt-street, and though for a time the aspect was serious, the prompt work of the brigade prevented any serious damage. Messrs. Besemeres and Walker had their stock and fixtures insured for £550 with the Norwich Union Co., whilst Messrs. Endean and Wilson (who occupy the same building) had their stock protected to the extent of £1750, portion being held by the General Accident, Fire and Life Corporation Limited.

A ghastly story of death and suffering by fire comes from Mekocrito, a village in Hungary. An Easter festival was being held in the village hall, when the building took fire, and 400 men, women and children were killed. One hundred others escaped with their lives, but were badly burned or otherwise injured.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.

This old-established favourite is renewing its youth. For articles of wide and varied interest the February *Atlantic* will hold its own with any of its younger rivals. I notice elsewhere the paper on "The Waning Power of the Press." This is but one of many other interesting contributions, varying from short poems to an elaborate discussion of the future of high finance. There is a bright paper describing how Agassiz got his turtle eggs three hours after they were laid—quite a thrilling episode of natural history. Mr. P. S. Reinsch moralises over the difficulties created by the British Government in India, which gives the ablest Indians the best education and then debars them from the highest posts in the Government. There are a couple of historical papers and two literary essays of high merit. "The Decline of Poetic Justice" is one. The other is a discussion of the real relations between Dante and Beatrice. Taken as a whole, the February *Atlantic* is one of the most interesting miscellanies of the month.

The Bankers' Institute of Australasia.

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NITRO-BACTERINE.

Some Interesting Testimonies.

Extract from Wairarapa "Daily Times," January 17, 1910:—

Mr. Wingate, of Manaia, Masterton, supplies us with some interesting information and figures with regard to his oat crop, which has just been threshed. Mr. Wingate, it will be remembered, has been conducting some experiments with nitro-bacterine. He sowed a paddock down in oats, which, roughly speaking, he divided into four parts. The first part was sown with seed that had not been treated, the second and the third with seed that had received a dressing of the nitro-bacterine according to prescription, while the fourth part, again, was sown with seed that had not been treated, but with this difference: the young shoots were given a dressing with a solution of the culture as soon as they showed above the ground. The results are decidedly interesting, as the following figures will show:—No. 1 plot, which was not treated, yielded a crop, the weight of which, including straw and oats, when cut, was 52½ lbs.; weighed again when dry, it showed a loss of 28½ lbs., leaving the weight at 24 lbs., which gave a yield of 3¼ lbs. of oats. This worked out at twenty-six bushels per acre, and a total weight of oats and straw per acre of 68 cwt. 64 lbs. The second plot gave a weight of straw and oats, when cut, of 48¼ lbs., and showed a shrinkage in drying of 20¼ lbs., leaving the weight at 28 lbs., that yielded 5½ lbs. of oats. The yield per acre on this basis worked out at forty-four bushels and a total weight of oats and straw of 80 cwt. The third plot proved the best of the lot, giving a weight of straw and oats, when cut, of 54 lbs. It showed a shrinkage of 24½ lbs. in drying, leaving the weight at 29½ lbs., that yielded 6¼ lbs. of oats. This worked out at fifty-two bushels per acre, and a total weight of oats and straw per acre of 84 cwt. 32 lbs. No. 4 plot, which was given a dressing with a solution of the culture after the seed had shown above the ground, yielded, when cut, 48¼ lbs. of oats and straw, and showed a shrinkage in drying of 24¼ lbs., leaving 24 lbs. that yielded 6 lbs. of oats. This worked out at forty-eight bushels per acre, and a total weight of oats and straw per acre of 68 cwt. 64 lbs.

It will be noticed that the yield per acre from the third plot, which was treated with the culture, is just double that from the plot which was not treated, a fact that should demonstrate conclusively the value of nitro-bacterine.

The figures were compiled by Mr. D. Guild.

Mr. Wingate also writes, "I applied to apple trees, round the roots, with results beyond my expectations."

"Oaklands,"
Essex-road, Surrey Hills.

The Nitro-Bacterine Co.,
Market-street, Melbourne.

Gentlemen,—

I am writing to you to express the satisfaction I have received from the use of Nitro-Bacterine in my garden.

It has been used on various crops—for instance, carrots, lettuce, beet, parsnips, swede turnips and onions were inoculated with the culture, and showed surprising results compared to previous crops.

In the two first-named I had the opportunity of drawing comparisons, as I had an uninoculated crop at the same time. Where the inoculated seed germinated (at least 95 per cent.), the uninoculated was only about 5 per cent. Then again, I used the culture for watering tomatoes and cypress hedge; the tomatoes simply went ahead by leaps and bounds, although they had previously been at a standstill; out of one dozen plants we have had over one thousand tomatoes, and they are, in the opinion of all who have sampled them, the finest flavour possible.

The cypress trees improved wonderfully, and I may say here that I have been complimented on all sides on the splendid appearance of all the crops; the results that were obtained previously to the use of Nitro-Bacterine were simply disheartening, but the use of your culture gives one some satisfaction for work done. Altogether only half a packet of culture has given me these results, and I am looking forward to still greater achievements this next season, when I shall give the whole garden a watering, and I will be only too pleased to be of assistance in recommending an article of such intrinsic value to all.

Yours truly,
(Signed) W. ARKLEY.

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